

# Borders, Geography, and Oligopoly: Evidence from the Wind Turbine Industry\*

A. Kerem Coşar

University of Chicago  
Booth School of Business

Paul L. E. Grieco

Pennsylvania State  
University

Felix Tintelnot

University of Chicago  
and Princeton University (IES)

May 6, 2014

## Abstract

Using a micro-level dataset of wind turbine installations in Denmark and Germany, we estimate a structural oligopoly model with cross-border trade and heterogeneous firms. Our approach separately identifies border-related from distance-related variable costs and bounds the fixed cost of exporting for each firm. In the data, firms' market shares drop precipitously at the border. We find that 40 to 50 percent of the gap can be attributed to national border costs. Counterfactual analysis indicates that eliminating national border frictions would increase total welfare in the wind turbine industry by 4 percent in Denmark and 6 percent in Germany.

*JEL Codes:* F14, L11, L20, L60, R12

*Keywords:* trade costs, oligopoly, spatial competition, constrained MLE

---

\*For their insightful comments and constructive suggestions, we thank Costas Arkolakis, Lorenzo Caliendo, Allan Collard-Wexler, Steve Davis, Jonathan Eaton, Charles Engel, Oleg Itskhoki, Samuel Kortum, Kala Krishna, Jan De Loecker, Matthias Lux, Ferdinando Monte, Eduardo Morales, Brent Neiman, Dennis Novy, Ralph Ossa, Ayşe Pehlivan, Joris Pinkse, Mark Roberts, Andrés Rodríguez-Clare, Alan Spearot, Elie Tamer, Jonathan Vogel, Stephen Yeaple, Nicholas Ziebarth, the editor, two anonymous referees, and numerous seminar participants. For their valuable discussions with us about the industry, we thank Wolfgang Conrad, Robert Juettner, Alex Kaulen, and Jochen Twele.

# 1 Introduction

Distance and political borders lead to geographic and national segmentation of markets. In turn, the size and structure of markets depend crucially on the size and nature of trade costs. A clear understanding of these costs is thus important for assessing the impact of many government policies.<sup>1</sup> Since the seminal work of McCallum (1995), an extensive literature has documented significant costs related to crossing national boundaries. Estimated magnitudes of border frictions are so large that some researchers have suggested they are due to spatial and industry-level aggregation bias, a failure to account for within-country heterogeneity and geography, and cross-border differences in market structure.<sup>2</sup> To avoid these potentially confounding effects, we use spatial micro-data from wind turbine installations in Denmark and Germany to estimate a structural model of oligopolistic competition with border frictions. Our main findings are: (1) border frictions are large within the wind turbine industry, (2) fixed and variable costs of exporting are both important in explaining overall border frictions, and (3) these frictions have a substantial impact on welfare.

Our ability to infer various components of trade costs is a result of our focus on a narrowly defined industry: wind turbine manufacturing. In addition to being an interesting case for study in its own right due to the growing importance of wind energy to the energy portfolios of many countries, the wind turbine industry in the European Union (EU) offers an excellent opportunity to examine the effects of national boundaries on market segmentation. First, we have rich spatial information on the location of manufacturers and installations. The data are much finer than previously used aggregate state- or province-level data. The use of disaggregated data allows us to account for actual shipping distances, rather than rely on market-to-market distances, to estimate border costs. Second, the data contain observations of both domestic and international trade. We observe active manufacturers on either side of the Danish-German border, some of whom choose to export and some of whom do not, allowing us to separate fixed and variable border costs.

---

<sup>1</sup>Policy relevance goes beyond trade policies. According to Obstfeld and Rogoff (2001), core empirical puzzles in international macroeconomics can be explained as a result of costs in the trade of goods. Effectiveness of domestic regulation in some industries may hinge on the extent of trade exposure, as shown by Fowlie, Reguant, and Ryan (2012) for the US Portland cement industry.

<sup>2</sup>See Hillberry (2002), Hillberry and Hummels (2008), Broda and Weinstein (2008) and Gorodnichenko and Tesar (2009).

Third, intra-EU trade is free from formal barriers and large exchange rate fluctuations. National subsidies are directed only toward the generation of renewable electricity. By the Single European Act, they do not discriminate against other European producers of turbines. The border costs in this setting are therefore due to factors other than formal barriers to trade.

Despite substantial formal integration, the data indicate significant market segmentation between Denmark and Germany. Examining the sales of turbines in 1995 and 1996, we find that domestic manufacturers have a substantially higher market share than foreign manufacturers. For example, the top five German manufacturers possess a market share of 60 percent in Germany and only 2 percent in Denmark. There appear to be border frictions on both the extensive and intensive margins: in the extensive margin, only one of the five large German firms exports to Denmark. In contrast, all five large Danish firms have sales in Germany. In the intensive margin, however, their market share is substantially lower in the foreign market and drops discontinuously at the border.

We propose a model to explain these patterns and study the welfare implications of the border. Firms are heterogeneous in their qualities, costs and primary manufacturing location. The model has two stages: In the first stage, turbine producers decide whether or not to export. Exporting firms must pay a *fixed entry cost* specific to them. In the second stage, turbine producers observe the set of active producers in each market and engage in price competition for each project. This gives rise to a spatial model of demand for wind turbine installations. From the sourcing decision of project managers, we can identify *internal and international variable border costs* by exploiting variation across firms and projects in their distance to federal and national borders. Since borders are responsible for a discrete jump in costs, they can be separated from the steady increase in *costs related to distance*. The model thus delivers endogenous variation in prices, markups, and market shares across points in space, so we are able to analyze the impact of the border on trade flows, as well as producer and consumer surplus.

Our results indicate that there are substantial variable and fixed costs to sell wind turbines across the border between Denmark and Germany.<sup>3</sup> Whereas German firms face nonnegligible

---

<sup>3</sup>We assume that all border frictions are related to costs, rather than home bias on the part of project managers. In consumer goods industries, preferences may discontinuously change at the border if consumers act on a home

variable costs when competing outside of their home state, the variable border costs associated with the national border are roughly 85 percent higher. While fixed foreign market entry costs are not point identified by our model, we are able to gauge their significance through counterfactual analysis. We conduct two counterfactual experiments in which we first eliminate fixed entry costs and then all international border frictions. Market segmentation declines as we remove frictions to both the extensive and intensive margins. Overall, we find that the elimination of international border frictions raises consumer surplus by 8.6 and 8.8 percent in Denmark and Germany, respectively. Total surplus increases by 4.3 percent in Denmark and 5.6 percent in Germany.

By estimating a structural oligopoly model that controls for internal geography and firm heterogeneity, this paper adds to the empirical literature on trade costs. Early contributions by McCallum (1995) and Anderson and van Wincoop (2003) use data on interstate, interprovincial, and international trade flows between Canada and the United States to document a disproportionately high level of *intranational* trade between Canadian provinces and U.S. states after controlling for income levels of regions and the distances between them. Alternatively, Engel and Rogers (1996), Gopinath, Gourinchas, Hsieh, and Li (2011), and Goldberg and Verboven (2001, 2005) have documented market segmentation by studying internal versus cross border price dispersion.

Rather than inferring a “border effect” or “width of the border” based on differences between intra- and international trade flows or price differentials, we estimate a structural model of market segmentation using spatial micro-data. By doing so, we address several critiques raised by the literature. Hillberry (2002), Hillberry and Hummels (2008), and Broda and Weinstein (2008) have argued that sectoral, geographic, and product-level aggregation may lead to upward bias in the estimation of the border effect in studies that use trade flows. Holmes and Stevens (2012) emphasize the importance of controlling for internal distances. Our study addresses these critiques since our data enables us to precisely calculate the distances between consumption and production locations for a narrowly defined product. That, in turn, enables us to separate the

---

bias towards domestic producers. In our setting, where consumers are profit-maximizers purchasing an investment good, we expect that demand driven home bias is small. Alternatively, we can interpret our cost estimates as incorporating the additional costs exporting firms must incur to overcome any home-bias in preferences.

impact of distance from the impact of the border. In addition, we can use our model to quantify the producer and consumer surplus implications of cross-border trade barriers.

In summary, our industry-specific focus has three major advantages: First, the use of precise data on locations in a structural model allows for a clean identification of costs related to distance and border. Second, the model controls for endogenous variation in markups across markets within and across countries based on changes in the competitive structure across space. Third, by distinguishing between fixed and variable border costs, we gain a deeper insight into the sources of border frictions than we do from studies that use aggregate data.

## 2 Industry Background and Data

Encouraged by generous subsidies for wind energy, Germany and Denmark have been at the forefront of what has become a worldwide boom in the construction of wind turbines. Large-scale production and installation of electricity generating wind-turbine initially became popular after the introduction of feed-in-tariff subsidies for wind energy generation in 1984 in Denmark and in 1991 in Germany. Owners of wind farms are paid for the electricity they produce and provide to the electric grid. In both countries, national governments regulate the unit price paid by grid operators to site owners. These “feed-in-tariffs” are substantially higher than the market rate for other electricity sources. Important for our study is that remuneration for renewable energy is not conditional on purchasing turbines from domestic turbine manufacturers, which would be in violation of European single market policy. Therefore, it is in the best interest of the wind farm owner to purchase the turbine that maximizes his or her profits independent of the nationality of the manufacturer.

The project manager’s choice of manufacturer is our primary focus. In the period we study, purchasers of wind turbines were primarily small independent investors.<sup>4</sup> The turbine manufac-

---

<sup>4</sup>Small purchasers were encouraged by financial incentive schemes that gave larger remuneration to small producers such as cooperative investment groups and private owners. The German Electricity Feed Law of 1991 explicitly ruled out price support for installations in which the Federal Republic of Germany, a federal state, a public electricity utility or one of its subsidiaries held shares of more than 25 percent. The Danish support scheme provided about 30% higher financial compensation for independent producers of renewable electricity (Sijm, 2002). A new law passed in Germany in 2000 eliminated the restrictions for public electricity companies to benefit from above-market pricing of renewable energy.

turing industry, on the other hand, is dominated by a small number of firms that manufacture, construct, and maintain turbines on the project owner’s land. Manufacturers usually have a portfolio of turbine designs available with various generating capacities. Overall, their portfolios are relatively homogeneous in terms of observable characteristics.<sup>5</sup>

The proximity of the production location to the project site is an important driver of cost differences across projects. Due to the size and weight of turbine components, oversized cargo shipments typically necessitate road closures along the delivery route. According to industry sources, transportation costs range between 6 to 20 percent of total costs (Franken and Weber, 2008). Plant-to-project distances also impact the cost of post-sale services (such as maintenance), installing remote controllers to monitor wind farm operations, gathering information about sites further away from the manufacturer’s location, and maintaining relationships with local contractors who construct turbine towers.<sup>6</sup>

Intra- and inter-national political boundaries impose other variable costs on firms. Industry experts highlight several sources of frictions. In the case of state-borders, these costs are related to administrative hurdles in coordinating transportation across different agencies, acquiring building permits, and interacting with regional operators to connect projects to the grid. The banking sector, which is critical for obtaining project financing, is also typically organized at the state or local level. Moreover, firms that are local employers benefit from greater visibility than their out-of-state competitors. In addition to the cost of selling across an intra-national border, the international border imposes even higher transaction costs. Additional channels include the cost of writing and enforcing international contracts and dealing with a different currency, language and culture.

In contrast to distance and variable border costs, fixed market entry costs are incurred only once upon entering a foreign market. Differences in the electricity grid in Denmark and Germany

---

<sup>5</sup>Main observable product characteristics are generation capacity, tower height, and rotor diameter. Distribution of turbines in terms of these variables is very similar in both countries. Further details are displayed in Appendix B.

<sup>6</sup>For a rough comparison of the effect that distance has in this industry against common benchmarks in the literature, Appendix A estimates a gravity equation on international trade in the 6-digit HS 2007 product category associated with wind turbines. The results indicate that the industry is remarkably representative in terms of distance and contiguity. We take this as evidence that, while distance is an important driver of costs in the industry, its effect is not inordinately large relative to other tradable manufactured goods.

require the development and installation of a country-specific software that regulates generation. Similarly, each turbine model undergoes a separate certification process in each country before it can be marketed. In order to overcome differences in language and business practices, firms may establish country-specific sales teams. These fixed entry costs may prevent a firm from competing for projects in the foreign market at all. Accounting for these costs will be important as they may substantially change the market structure, i.e. the number of competitors, on either side of the border.

## 2.1 Data

We have collected data on every installation of a wind turbine in Denmark and Germany dating to the birth of the wind turbine industry. The data include the location of each project, the number of turbines, the total megawatt capacity, the date of grid-connection, manufacturer identity, and other turbine characteristics, such as rotor diameter and tower heights. Using the location of each manufacturer's primary production facility, we calculate road-distances from each manufacturer to each project. This provides us with a spatial source of variation in manufacturer costs that aids in identifying the sources of market segmentation. While our data is rich in the spatial dimension, we do not observe transaction prices due to the business-to-business nature of the industry. Appendix B provides a detailed description of the data.

In this paper, we concentrate on the years 1995-1996. This has several advantages. First, the set of firms was stable during this time period. There are several medium-to-large firms competing in the market. In 1997, a merger and acquisition wave began, which lasted until 2005. This wave includes a cross-border acquisition, which would blur the distinction between a foreign and domestic firm and complicate our analysis of the border effect.<sup>7</sup> Second, site owners in this period were typically independent producers. This contrasts with later periods when utility companies became significant purchasers of wind turbines, leading to more concerns about repeated interaction between purchasers and manufacturers. Third, this period contains several

---

<sup>7</sup>On the other hand, the specter of a merger wave presents the possibility of anticipatory effects. For example, if a firm was seen as a likely merger target this might affect its reputation given that servicing a turbine in the future is typically the responsibility of the manufacturing firm. We control for these effects through firm fixed effects to allow the reputation of firms to be heterogeneous.

Table 1: MAJOR DANISH AND GERMAN MANUFACTURERS

Manufacturer	Nationality	% Market share in Denmark	% Market share in Germany
Vestas	(DK)	45.45	12.04
Micon	(DK)	19.19	8.17
Bonus	(DK)	12.12	5.05
Nordtank	(DK)	11.45	4.73
WindWorld	(DK)	4.38	2.73
Total		92.59	32.72
Enercon	(DE)		32.58
Tacke	(DE)		14.95
Nordex	(DE)	1.68	7.53
Suedwind	(DE)		2.37
Fuhrlaender	(DE)		2.15
Total		94.27	92.3

*Notes:* Market shares in terms of number of projects installed in 1995-1996. Shares are very similar when projects are weighted by megawatt size.

well-established firms and the national price subsidies for wind electricity generation had been in place for several years. Prior to the mid-1990s, the market could be considered an “infant industry” with substantial uncertainty about the viability of firms and downstream subsidies. Fourth, starting in the late 1990s, a substantial fraction of wind turbine installations are offshore, so road-distance to the turbine location is no longer a useful source of variation in production costs.

In focusing on a two-year period, we abstract away from some dynamic considerations. Although this greatly simplifies the analysis, it comes with some drawbacks. Most important is that one cannot distinguish sunk costs from fixed costs of entering the foreign export market (Roberts and Tybout, 1997; Das, Roberts, and Tybout, 2007). Because of the small number of firms and the lack of substantial entry and exit, it would not be possible to reliably estimate sunk costs and fixed costs separately in any case. We must also abstract away from the possibility of collusion that could result from repeated interaction (Salvo, 2010), although we have no reason to expect collusion occurred in this industry. Instead, we model the decision to enter a foreign market as a one-shot game. This decision does not affect the consistency of our variable cost estimates, whereas our counterfactuals removing fixed costs should be interpreted as removing both sunk and fixed costs.

Figure 1: PROJECT AND PRODUCER LOCATIONS

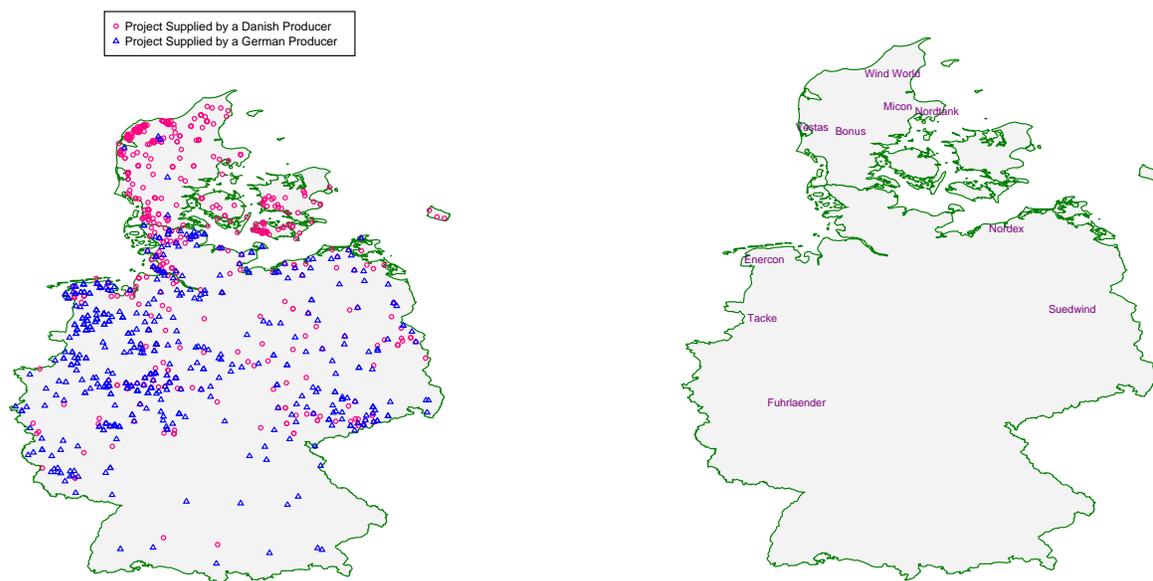


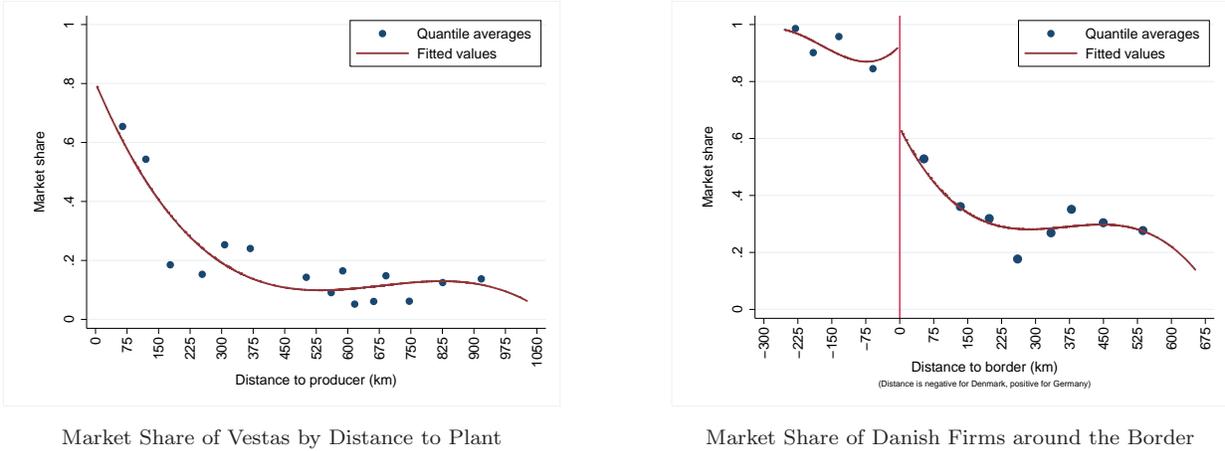
Table 1 displays the market shares of the largest five Danish and German firms in both countries. We take these firms to be the set of manufacturers in our study. In the left panel of Figure 1, we present the project locations using separate markers for German and Danish produced projects. The right panel provides the location of the primary production facility for each turbine manufacturer.

## 2.2 Preliminary Analysis of the Border Effect

Table 1 and Figure 1 clearly suggest some degree of market segmentation between Germany and Denmark. Four out of five large German firms—including the German market leader, Enercon—do not have any presence in Denmark. That all Danish firms enter Germany whereas only one German firm competes in Denmark is consistent with the existence of fixed costs for exporting. Because the German market is much larger than the Danish market (929 projects were installed in Germany in this period, versus 296 in Denmark—see the map of projects in Figure 1), these fixed costs can be amortized over a larger number of projects in Germany.

For those firms that do export, the lower market share in the foreign market may have many different causes. First, market structure changes as the set of firms competing in Denmark

Figure 2: MARKET SHARES BY DISTANCE AND ACROSS THE NATIONAL BORDER



*Notes:* In the left panel, the fitted line follows from the linear regression of a dummy variable that takes the value one if a project is supplied by Vestas, and zero otherwise, on a cubic polynomial of projects' road distances to Vestas' headquarters. Dots are local market shares (i.e. proportion of projects supplied by Vestas) within 15 distance quantiles. In the right panel, the fitted line follows from the linear regression of a dummy variable that takes the value one if a project is supplied by one of the five large Danish firms on a cubic polynomial of projects' great-circle distances to the border, a Germany dummy and interaction terms. Regression details are in Appendix B.4. Dots are local market shares (i.e. proportion of projects supplied by Danish firms) within 12 distance quantiles.

is smaller than that in Germany. Second, due to distance costs, foreign firms will have higher costs than domestic ones simply because projects are likely to be nearer to domestic manufacturing plants. Finally, there may be variable border costs, which must be paid for each foreign project produced.

We start by exploring the effect of distance as a potential source of market segmentation. The impact of distance on firm costs is illustrated by the left-hand panel of Figure 2. This figure documents Vestas' declining market share as the distance from its main manufacturing location increases. While this figure suggests that costs may be increasing in distance from the manufacturing base, it cannot easily be used to estimate distance costs. The impact of the border—roughly 150 kilometers from Vestas' manufacturing plant—confounds the relationship. Moreover, in an oligopolistic industry, Vestas' share is a function of not only its own costs but also those of competitor firms. Our model will jointly solve for the probability that each competing firm wins a project based on the project's location in relation to all firms.

We next employ a regression discontinuity design (RDD) to quantify the effect of the border on large Danish firms' market share. Given that wind and demand conditions do not change abruptly, the RDD uncovers the impact of the border. To implement this, we regress a project-level binary variable that takes the value one if it is supplied by a large Danish firms

Table 2: RDD RESULTS

Germany	-0.305 (0.126)	-0.423 (0.057)
Time trend		0.011 (0.003)
Data period	1995-1996	1982-2005
Observations	1226	9622
$R^2$	0.284	0.274

*Notes:* Standard errors in parentheses.

and zero otherwise, to a cubic polynomial of distance from the project to the border, a Germany dummy (to capture the border effect), and interaction terms. The first column in Table 2 reports the border dummy, which is a statistically significant  $-0.305$ . This market share drop of the largest five Danish firms is reflected in the right-hand panel of Figure 2 which plots the fit of this regression (see Appendix B.4 for details).

If the market share discontinuity at the border captures trade frictions, one may expect a declining effect throughout the 1990s, a period during which European integration deepened. To check this pattern and assess the representativeness of our 1995-1996 data, we estimate the RDD by pooling the data between 1982-2005 and allowing the border dummy to have a time trend. Second column of Table 2 reports the results. There is a gradual, but statistically significant, declining trend in the market share discontinuity at the border. The market share discontinuity captured by the border dummy is 0.423 at 1982, and shrinks by about one percentage point annually. Enforcement of the European Single Market programme, general reductions in trade costs due to globalization, and subsequent cross-border acquisitions and investments may have indeed reduced the frictions faced by foreign producers over time. Our period of study falls in the middle of this trend.

These results give us reason to believe that the border matters in the wind turbine industry, however it tells us little about how the discontinuity arises. For example, the discontinuity at the border does not separately identify the effect of changes in market structure between Germany and Denmark from the impact of variable border costs. Motivated by this, the following section proposes a structural model that accounts for the change in market structure at the border.

### 3 Model

Denmark and Germany are indexed by  $\ell \in \{D, G\}$ . Each country has a discrete set of large domestic firms denoted by  $\mathcal{M}_\ell$  and a local fringe. Large firms are heterogeneous in their location and productivity. There is a fixed number of  $N_\ell$  projects in each country, and they are characterized by their location and size (total megawatt generation capacity), both of which are exogenous. The land suitable for building a wind turbine is mostly rural and diffuse, so it is unlikely that project location is affected by the presence or absence of a turbine manufacturer. Cross-border competition takes place in two stages: In the first stage, large firms decide whether or not to pay a fixed cost to enter the foreign market. In the second stage, firms bid for all projects in the markets they compete in (they do so in their domestic market by default). Project owners independently choose a turbine supplier among competing firms. We now present the two stages following backward induction, starting with the bidding game.

#### 3.1 Project Bidding Game

In this stage, active firms offer a separate price to each project manager, and project managers choose the offer that maximizes their valuation. The set of active firms is taken as given by all players, as it was realized in the entry stage. For ease of notation, we drop the country index  $\ell$  for the moment and describe the project bidding game in one country. The set of active, large firms (denoted by  $\mathcal{J}$ ) and the competitive fringe compete over  $N$  projects.  $\mathcal{J}$  contains all domestic and foreign firms—if there are any—that entered the market in the first stage, so  $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{J}$ .

The per-megawatt payoff function of a project owner  $i$  for choosing firm  $j$  is,

$$V_{ij} = d_j - p_{ij} + \epsilon_{ij}.$$

The return to the project owner depends on the quality of the wind turbine,  $d_j$ , the per-megawatt price  $p_{ij}$  charged by manufacturer  $j$  denominated in the units of the project owner's payoff,<sup>8</sup> and

---

<sup>8</sup>Since we do not directly observe prices, we will use the manufacturer's first order condition to derive prices in units of the project owners payoff. As a result the "marginal utility of currency" coefficient on price is not identified and is simply normalized to 1. While this normalization does prevent us from presenting currency figures for

an idiosyncratic choice-specific shock  $\epsilon_{ij}$ .<sup>9</sup> It is well known that discrete choice models only identify relative differences in valuations. We thus model a non-strategic fringe as an outside option. We denote it as firm 0 and normalize the return as  $V_{i0} = \epsilon_{i0}$ .

We assume  $\epsilon_{ij}$  is distributed i.i.d. across projects and firms according to the Type-I extreme value distribution. The  $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_i$  vector is private information to project managers who collect project-specific price bids from producers. The assumption that  $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_i$  is i.i.d. and private knowledge abstracts away from the presence of unobservables that are known to the firms at the time they choose prices but are unknown to the econometrician.<sup>10</sup> After receiving all price bids, denoted by the vector  $\mathbf{p}_i$ , owners choose the firm that delivers them the highest payoff. Using the familiar logit formula, the probability that owner  $i$  chooses firm  $j$  is given by,

$$Pr[i \text{ chooses } j] \equiv \rho_{ij}(\mathbf{p}_i) = \frac{\exp(d_j - p_{ij})}{1 + \sum_{k=1}^{|\mathcal{J}|} \exp(d_k - p_{ik})} \quad \text{for } j \in \mathcal{J}. \quad (1)$$

The probability of choosing the fringe is

$$Pr[i \text{ chooses the fringe}] \equiv \rho_{i0}(\mathbf{p}_i) = 1 - \sum_{j=1}^{|\mathcal{J}|} \rho_{ij}(\mathbf{p}_i).$$

Now we turn to the problem of the turbine producers. The per-megawatt cost for producer  $j$  to supply project  $i$  is a function of its heterogeneous production cost  $\phi_j$ , its distance to the project, and whether or not it is a foreign or domestic out-of-state producer:

$$c_{ij} = \phi_j + \beta_d \cdot \log(\text{distance}_{ij}) + \beta_b \cdot \text{border}_{ij} + \beta_s \cdot \text{state}_{ij}, \quad (2)$$

where the dummy variable  $\text{border}_{ij}$  equals one if  $i$  and  $j$  are located in different countries, and zero otherwise. Similarly,  $\text{state}_{ij}$  equals one if both  $i$  and  $j$  are located in Germany, but in different

---

consumer and producer surplus, it does not affect the ratio of consumer to producer surplus or the relative welfare implications of our counterfactual analyses.

<sup>9</sup>We assume away project-level economies of scale by making price bids per-megawatt. In Appendix B, we check whether foreign turbine manufacturers tend to specialize on larger projects abroad. We find that the average project size abroad is very similar to the average project size at home for each exporting firm.

<sup>10</sup>For example, if local politics or geography favors one firm over another in a particular region, firms would account for this in their pricing strategies, but we are unable to account for this since this effect is unobserved to us. In Appendix C.3, we address the robustness of our estimate to local unobservables of this type.

states, and zero otherwise.<sup>11</sup> Due to data limitations, this cost function is meant to capture and distinguish in a reduced form those costs which are related simply to distance—including shipping costs, communication difficulties, etc—from those that directly relate to political boundaries—differences in laws and regulations—and those specifically related to national boundaries—cultural and language differences and international contracting. While we are unable to directly understand *why* distance and political boundaries both impart costs on trade, we believe our study takes a step in the direction of understanding the role these costs play in segmenting national and international markets.

Firms engage in Bertrand competition by submitting price bids for projects in the markets in which they are active.<sup>12</sup> They observe the identities and all characteristics of their competitors (i.e., their quality and marginal cost for each project) except the valuation vector  $\epsilon_i$ . The second stage is thus a static game with imperfect, but symmetric, information. In a pure-strategy Bayesian-Nash equilibrium, each firm chooses its price to maximize expected profits given the prices of other firms:<sup>13</sup>

$$E[\pi_{ij}] = \max_{p_{ij}} \rho_{ij}(p_{ij}, \mathbf{p}_{i,-j}) \cdot (p_{ij} - c_{ij}) \cdot S_i,$$

where  $S_i$  is the size of the project in megawatts. Firm  $i$ 's first order condition is,

$$0 = \frac{\partial \rho_{ij}(p_{ij}, \mathbf{p}_{i,-j})}{\partial p_{ij}} (p_{ij} - c_{ij}) + \rho_{ij}(p_{ij}, \mathbf{p}_{i,-j}),$$

$$p_{ij} = c_{ij} - \frac{\rho_{ij}(p_{ij}, \mathbf{p}_{i,-j})}{\partial \rho_{ij}(p_{ij}, \mathbf{p}_{i,-j}) / \partial p_{ij}}.$$

Exploiting the properties of the logit form, this expression simplifies to an optimal mark-up pricing condition:

$$p_{ij} = c_{ij} + \frac{1}{1 - \rho_{ij}(p_{ij}, \mathbf{p}_{i,-j})}. \quad (3)$$

---

<sup>11</sup>Unlike federal Germany, Denmark has a unitary system of government. So we treat Denmark as a single entity.

<sup>12</sup>Industry experts we interviewed indicated that there was an excess supply of production capacity in the market during these years. One indication of this is that many firms suffered from low profitability, sparking a merger wave. Therefore, it is not likely that capacity constraints were binding in this period.

<sup>13</sup>We assume that firms are maximizing expected profits on a project-by-project level. This abstracts away from economics of density in project locations—i.e., the possibility that by having several projects close together they could be produced and maintained at a lower cost. We address the robustness of our model to the presence of economies of density in Appendix C.3.

The mark-up is increasing in the (endogenous) probability of winning the project and is thus a function of the set of the firms active in the market and their characteristics. Substituting (3) into (1), we arrive at a fixed-point problem with  $|\mathcal{J}|$  unknowns and  $|\mathcal{J}|$  equations for each project  $i$ :

$$\rho_{ij} = \frac{\exp\left(d_j - c_{ij} - \frac{1}{1-\rho_{ij}}\right)}{1 + \sum_{k=1}^{|\mathcal{J}|} \exp\left(d_k - c_{ik} - \frac{1}{1-\rho_{ik}}\right)} \quad \text{for } j \in \mathcal{J}. \quad (4)$$

Our framework fits into the class of games for which Caplin and Nalebuff (1991) show the existence of a unique pure-strategy equilibrium. Using the optimal mark-up pricing condition, the expected profits of manufacturer  $j$  for project  $i$  can be calculated as,

$$E[\pi_{ij}] = \frac{\rho_{ij}}{1 - \rho_{ij}} S_i.$$

Potential exporters take expected profits into account in their entry decisions.

Our approach bears a strong resemblance to models of differentiated demand used in industrial organization (e.g., Berry, 1994; Berry, Levinsohn, and Pakes, 1995). There are two key differences. First, the traditional approach assumes that the econometrician observes the overall market share of a product with a fixed set of characteristics within the market. In our case, because the turbine location affects each firm's costs, the characteristics of products are different at every project location. Since we have precise data on which manufacturers constructed which projects, we are thus able to exploit observed manufacturer-consumer differences (i.e., distance to project location) to identify trade costs. Second, the traditional approach requires that prices are observed. We do not observe transaction prices due to the business-to-business nature of the industry. To surmount this challenge, we assume manufacturers choose prices (and hence, markups) for each project on the basis a profit maximization condition derived from our model. Our approach uses profit maximization to derive a structural connection between quantities and prices when only quantities are observed. As such, it can be seen as complementary to the work of Thomadsen (2005) and Feenstra and Levinsohn (1995), who use a profit maximization condition to derive a relationship between prices and quantities when only prices are observable. With price data, the traditional approach is able to allow for a market-level unobserved quality component,

whereas we control for unobserved turbine quality through a firm fixed effect.

### 3.2 Entry Game

Before bidding on projects, an entry stage is played in which all large firms simultaneously decide whether or not to be active in the foreign market by incurring a firm-specific fixed cost  $f_j$ . This fixed cost captures expenses that can be amortized across all foreign projects, such as establishing a foreign sales office, gaining regulatory approvals, or developing the operating software satisfying the requirements set by national grids.<sup>14</sup>

Let  $\Pi_j(\mathcal{J}_{-j} \cup j)$  be the expected profit of manufacturer  $j$  in the foreign market where  $\mathcal{J}_{-j}$  is the set of active bidders other than  $j$ . This is simply the sum of the expected profit of bidding for all foreign projects:

$$\Pi_j(\mathcal{J}_{-j} \cup j) = \sum_{i=1}^N E[\pi_{ij}(\mathcal{J}_{-j} \cup j)]. \quad (5)$$

Manufacturer  $j$  enters the foreign market if its expected return is higher than its fixed cost:

$$\Pi_j(\mathcal{J}_{-j} \cup j) \geq f_j. \quad (6)$$

Note that this entry game may have multiple equilibria. Following the literature initiated by Bresnahan and Reiss (1991), we assume that the observed decisions of firms are the outcome of a pure-strategy equilibrium; therefore, if a firm in our data is active in the foreign market, (6) must hold for that firm. On the other hand, if firm  $j$  is not observed in the foreign market, one can infer the following lower bound on fixed export cost:

$$\Pi_j(\mathcal{J}_{-j} \cup j) \leq f_j. \quad (7)$$

We use these two necessary conditions to construct inequalities that bound  $f_j$  from above or from below by using the estimates from the bidding game to impute the expected payoff estimates

---

<sup>14</sup>One could imagine the entry decision being regional rather than nationwide. This does not appear to be the case in our data, as exporting Danish firms supply projects in most German states. Therefore, we maintain the assumption that fixed costs are paid at the national level while testing for the presence of state-level fixed costs in Section 4.2.

of every firm for any set of active participants in the foreign market. This approach is similar to several studies (e.g., Pakes, Porter, Ho, and Ishii, 2006; Eizenberg, 2013) which have proposed the use of bounds to construct moment inequalities in estimating structural parameters. Holmes (2011) and Morales, Sheu, and Zahler (2014) applied this methodology to the context of spatial entry and trade. Of course, because our data only contain projects from 1995-1996, our bounds do not account for the possibility of future payoffs resulting from the decision to be active in the foreign market during the sample period, as might occur if there were substantial sunk costs to initiate exporting relative to per-period fixed costs. Accurately estimating sunk entry and fixed continuation costs separately would require a longer time period and a fully dynamic model. Moreover, because we observe only a single observation of each firm's entry decision, a moment inequality approach is not applicable in our setting: instead, we simply report the single bound for fixed cost imputed from the first stage. We now turn to the estimation of the model.

## 4 Estimation

Estimation proceeds in two steps: In the first step, we estimate the structural parameters of the project-bidding game. In the second step, we use these estimates to solve for equilibria in the project-bidding game with counterfactual sets of active firms to construct the fixed costs bounds. Before proceeding with the estimation, we must define the set of active firms in every country. Under our model, the set of firms that have positive sales in a country is a consistent estimate of the active set of firms; therefore, we define a firm as active in the foreign market if it has any positive sales there.

We now reintroduce the country index:  $\rho_{ij}^\ell$  is firm  $j$ 's probability of winning project  $i$  in country  $\ell$ , in which the number of active firms is  $|\mathcal{J}_\ell|$ . Substituting the cost function (2) into the winning probability (4), we find,

$$\rho_{ij}^\ell = \frac{\exp\left(d_j - \phi_j - \beta_d \cdot \log(\text{distance}_{ij}) - \beta_b \cdot \text{border}_{ij} - \beta_s \cdot \text{state}_{ij} - \frac{1}{1-\rho_{ij}^\ell}\right)}{1 + \sum_{k=1}^{|\mathcal{J}_\ell|} \exp\left(d_k - \phi_k - \beta_d \cdot \log(\text{distance}_{ik}) - \beta_b \cdot \text{border}_{ik} - \beta_s \cdot \text{state}_{ij} - \frac{1}{1-\rho_{ik}^\ell}\right)}. \quad (8)$$

From this equation, one can see that firms' production costs  $\phi_j$  and quality level  $d_j$  are not separately identified given our data. We thus jointly capture these two effects by firm fixed-effects  $\xi_j = d_j - \phi_j$ .

We collect the parameters to estimate into the vector  $\theta = (\beta_b, \beta_d, \beta_s, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_{|\mathcal{M}_D|+|\mathcal{M}_G|})$ . We estimate the model via constrained maximum likelihood, where the likelihood of the data is maximized subject to the equilibrium constraints (8). The likelihood function of the project data has the following form:

$$L(\rho) = \prod_{\ell \in \{D, G\}} \prod_{i=1}^{N_\ell} \prod_{j=0}^{|\mathcal{J}_\ell|} (\rho_{ij}^\ell)^{y_{ij}^\ell}, \quad (9)$$

where  $y_{ij}^\ell = 1$  if manufacturer  $j$  is chosen to supply project  $i$  in country  $\ell$  and 0 otherwise. The constrained maximum likelihood estimator,  $\hat{\theta}$ , together with the vector of expected project win probabilities,  $\hat{\rho}$ , solves the following problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\theta, \rho} \quad & L(\rho) & (10) \\ \text{subject to:} \quad & \rho_{ij}^\ell = \frac{\exp\left(\xi_j - \beta_d \cdot \log(\text{distance}_{ij}) - \beta_b \cdot \text{border}_{ij} - \beta_s \cdot \text{state}_{ij} - \frac{1}{1-\rho_{ij}^\ell}\right)}{1 + \sum_{k=1}^{|\mathcal{J}_\ell|} \exp\left(\xi_k - \beta_d \cdot \log(\text{distance}_{ik}) - \beta_b \cdot \text{border}_{ik} - \beta_s \cdot \text{state}_{ij} - \frac{1}{1-\rho_{ik}^\ell}\right)} \\ & \sum_{k=1}^{|\mathcal{J}_\ell|} \rho_{ik}^\ell + \rho_{i0}^\ell = 1 \quad \text{for } \ell \in \{D, G\}, i \in \{1, \dots, N_\ell\}, j \in \mathcal{J}. \end{aligned}$$

Examining (10) provides straightforward intuition for identification of the model. The model implies a probability that each manufacturer builds each product. These are directly related to the individual firms competitiveness, its cost to build each product, and its optimal markup—a function of its own and other firms costs. As a project moves closer to or further away from a firm, its costs will vary, allowing us to identify the impact of costs directly. Crossing an internal or international boundary results in a discontinuous change in the firms predicted probability of winning which can be separated from the smooth effects of distance. The proximity of a firm to other producers, while not affecting its cost, also impacts its markup and probability of winning. The maximum likelihood estimator searches for the parameterization of the model which best matches the pattern of manufacturer choice observed in the empirical distribution. We describe

the details of the computational procedure in Appendix D.

Once the structural parameters are recovered, one can calculate bounds on the fixed costs of entry for each firm,  $f_j$ , using (6) and (7). This involves resolving the model with the appropriate set of firms while holding the structural parameters fixed at their estimated values. We use a parametric bootstrap procedure to calculate the standard errors for these bounds.

## 4.1 Parameter Estimates

Estimation results are presented in Table 3 starting in the first column with the baseline specification featuring national and state borders. The second column drops the state border, which is estimated to be significant in the baseline. In the third column, we bring back the state-border but let the distance cost to be piecewise linear in three intervals in order to allow for a more flexible specification in capturing the concavity of distance costs. Across all specifications, the national border coefficient is positive and statistically significant. Moreover, its magnitude is higher than the state border coefficient in the first and third columns.

While the state border reveals some regulatory hurdles faced by out-of-state producers—such as the higher cost of obtaining local permits and coordinating transportation—the higher national border cost verifies the existence of additional frictions to exporting—dealing with foreign jurisdictions, visiting foreign locations for maintenance, and risks associated with long-term cross-border contracting and servicing. The baseline estimates indicate that the cost of crossing an international border is roughly 85 percent higher than that of crossing an internal boundary; this difference is statistically significant.

Comparing the first and second columns, the elimination of the internal border causes the distance coefficient to fall, and the national border coefficient to increase. This provides some indication that controlling for internal borders is important to consistently recovering the impact of the national boundary. In particular, when the state border is not included, distance will act as an imperfect proxy for state borders, as higher distances will be correlated with crossing a state border, leading to an upward omitted variable bias. Similarly, since exporters do not face the internal border cost by construction, the state border dummy is negatively correlated with the

Table 3: MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD ESTIMATES

	Baseline	National Border Only	Piecewise Linear Distance Costs
National Border Variable Cost, $\beta_b$	1.151 (0.243)	0.855 (0.211)	1.360 (0.244)
State Border Variable Cost, $\beta_s$	0.622 (0.223)		0.799 (0.212)
Log Distance Cost, $\beta_d$	0.551 (0.091)	0.679 (0.079)	
Distance, [0, 50) km			6.096 (1.475)
Distance, [50, 100) km			0.442 (0.616)
Distance, 100+ km			0.089 (0.036)
Firm Fixed Effects, $\xi_j$			
<i>Bonus (DK)</i>	2.480 (0.219)	2.414 (0.212)	5.493 (0.615)
<i>Nordtank (DK)</i>	2.531 (0.225)	2.492 (0.221)	5.487 (0.625)
<i>Micon (DK)</i>	3.085 (0.211)	3.036 (0.209)	6.091 (0.621)
<i>Vestas (DK)</i>	3.771 (0.208)	3.710 (0.204)	6.756 (0.615)
<i>WindWorld (DK)</i>	1.641 (0.256)	1.594 (0.255)	4.570 (0.623)
<i>Enercon (DE)</i>	3.859 (0.208)	3.526 (0.166)	6.850 (0.605)
<i>Fuhrlaender (DE)</i>	0.598 (0.324)	0.199 (0.302)	3.465 (0.566)
<i>Nordex (DE)</i>	2.198 (0.235)	1.806 (0.188)	5.198 (0.609)
<i>Suedwind (DE)</i>	0.566 (0.259)	1.028 (0.303)	4.054 (0.636)
<i>Tacke (DE)</i>	2.749 (0.210)	2.403 (0.167)	5.806 (0.607)
Log-Likelihood	-2333.76	-2338.19	-2328.99
N	1225	1225	1225

Notes: Standard errors in parentheses. Distance is measured in units of 100km.

national border dummy, leading to a downward bias when the state dummy is omitted.

The third column replaces the log distance specification with a piecewise linear specification. This confirms the concavity in distance costs implied by the use of log distance in the baseline. Distance costs are extremely steep very close to the production facility but decline substantially beyond fifty kilometers, and even further beyond one hundred kilometers. The magnitudes of the border cost variables are robust to this specification. While the magnitudes of the firm fixed effect estimates rise, their relative magnitudes are very similar. The change in magnitude simply reflects

the fact that the vast majority of projects are beyond fifty kilometers, so the higher marginal distance cost very near a manufacturer (sometimes referred to as “first mile” costs) are captured by the fixed effect in the log specifications.<sup>15</sup>

Although ignoring internal border frictions in the second column leads to an overstatement of its effect, distance is also a significant driver of costs. To get a sense of its importance under the baseline estimates, we calculate the distance elasticity of the equilibrium probability of winning a project for every firm-project combination. The median distance elasticity ranges from 0.36 to 0.54. That is, the median effect of a one percent increase in the distance from a firm to a project (holding all other firms’ distances constant) is a decline of 0.36 to 0.54 percent in the probability of winning the project. So, distance has a sizeable impact on costs and market shares for all firms.<sup>16</sup>

As discussed above, the firm fixed effects reflect the combination of differences in quality and productivity across firms. We find significant differences between firms. It is not surprising that the largest firms, Vestas and Enercon, have the highest fixed effects. Although there is significant within-country dispersion, Danish firms generally appear to be stronger than German ones. The results suggest that controlling for firm heterogeneity is important for correctly estimating border and distance costs.

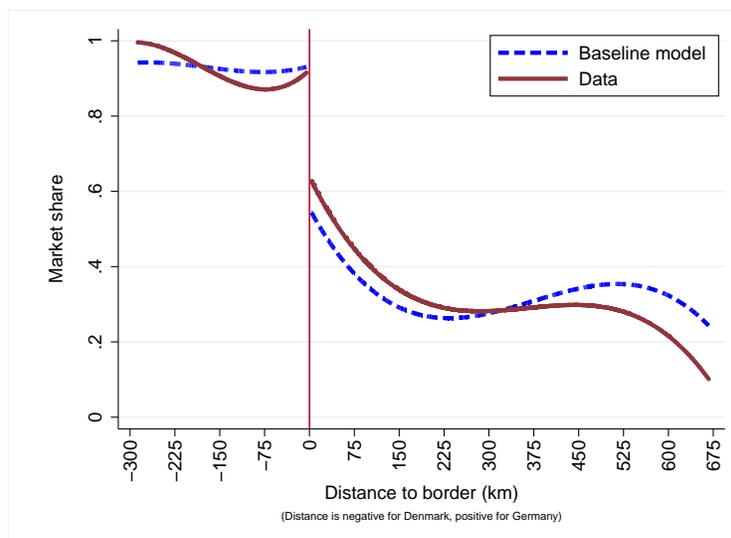
Since our model delivers expected purchase probabilities for each firm at each project site, we can use the regression discontinuity approach to visualize how well our model fits the observed data. Figure 3 presents this comparison using the baseline results. The horizontal axis is the distance to the Danish-German border, where negative distance is inside Denmark. The red (solid) line is the raw data fit. This is the same curve as that presented in right-hand panel of Figure 2, relating the probability of a Danish firm winning a project to distance to the national border and

---

<sup>15</sup>One might be concerned that the concavity of distance costs is an artifact of an endogenous location decision on the part of firms. While firms may locate in areas where demand will be high, an endogeneity problem would arise if, rather than simply because of high demand for turbines (which would raise the profitability of all producers), Vestas located its assembly facility in a location where demand for Vestas-made turbine demand is high relative to other manufacturer’s products. As we discuss above, turbines are largely homogenous, and the most region specific attribute—tower height—is easily customizable. Also, in Appendix C.3, we check the robustness of our results to local unobservables that favor firms heterogeneously.

<sup>16</sup>The distance elasticities we report are a function of the characteristics of all firms at a particular project site in a single industry. It is difficult to directly compare them with gravity-based distance elasticities from the literature that rely on national or regional distance proxies (e.g., McCallum, 1995; Eaton and Kortum, 2002; Anderson and van Wincoop, 2003)

Figure 3: MODEL FIT: EXPECTED DANISH MARKET SHARE BY DISTANCE TO THE BORDER



Notes: Data line is the same as in Figure 2. The model line is the linear fit of winning probability for each project by Danish firms on a cubic polynomial of projects' great-circle distances to the border, a Germany dummy, and interaction terms.

a border dummy. In particular, this regression does not control for project-to-firm distances. The blue (dashed) curve is fitted using the expected win probabilities calculated from the structural model. These probabilities depend explicitly on our estimates of both firm heterogeneity and project-to-manufacturer distances but do not explicitly depend on distance to the national border. The nonlinearity we see in winning probabilities not only captures the nonlinearity in distance costs, but also the rich spatial competition patterns predicted by the model. Overall, the model fits the data well.

Finally, our results relate to several studies that have attempted to get some sense of border magnitudes by reporting a border “width” (e.g., McCallum, 1995; Engel and Rogers, 1996) using market-to-market comparisons of prices and trade flows. We construct a similar statistic—the equivalent increase in distance that gives the same cost increase as crossing the national border as  $\exp(\beta_b/\beta_d)$ . Our baseline model implies an 8-fold increase in distance costs when crossing a border, while not controlling for internal boundaries causes this cost to fall to a 3.5-fold increase ( $\exp(0.855/0.679) = 3.52$ ). Since the literature has typically not accounted for internal boundaries, the 3.5 figure is most appropriate for comparison. While large, both our figures are small relative to the Engel and Rogers (1996) calculation. In a companion paper, we use a simulation exercise to illustrate how focusing on market-to-market price-variation is susceptible to upward biases relative

to source-to-market measures of border width due to specification error, measurement error and omitted variable bias (Cosar, Grieco, and Tintelnot, 2014).

We include additional robustness checks and alternative specifications in the online appendix. In Appendix C.2, we experiment with alternative specifications for the cost function of the firm, which allow for heterogeneity in distance cost coefficients (i.e.  $\beta_{dj}$  instead of common  $\beta_d$ ), and scale economies in cross-border sales. In Appendix C.3, we check the validity of the assumption on independent draws across projects, which may be violated due to the existence of spatial autocorrelation of unobservables across projects, economies of density, or spatial collusion among turbine manufacturers.<sup>17</sup> State and national border coefficients remain stable and significant across all these alternatives.

## 4.2 Fixed Cost Bounds

Not all firms enter the foreign market; rather, firms optimally choose whether or not to export by weighing their fixed costs of entry against the expected profits from exporting. Hence, firm-level heterogeneity in operating profits, fixed costs, or both is necessary to rationalize the fact that different firms make different exporting decisions.<sup>18</sup> Since our model naturally allows for heterogeneity in firm operating profits, this section considers whether heterogeneity in firms' fixed costs of exporting are also needed to rationalize observed entry decisions.

Since we only observe a single export decision for each firm, fixed costs are not point identified. Nevertheless, the model helps to place a bound on them. Firms optimally make their export decisions based on their fixed market entry costs and on the operating profits they expect in the export market as described in Section 3.2. Based on the parameter estimates in Table 3, we can derive counterfactual estimates of expected operating profits for any set of active firms in the

---

<sup>17</sup>Salvo (2010) offers a model of spatial competition in an oligopolistic industry where firms use geography to collude on higher prices. We do not believe spatial collusion to be a likely explanation for the discontinuity in our setting. Danish firms were active throughout Germany during this period, and our analysis in Appendix C.3 does not reveal a strong degree of spatial clustering that might be expected if firms were cooperatively splitting the wind turbine market across space. Moreover, the industry receives a high degree of regulatory scrutiny due to its importance in electricity generation. No anti-trust cases have been filed with the European Commission against the firms studied in this paper.

<sup>18</sup>The canonical Melitz (2003) model assumes homogenous fixed costs and heterogeneity in operating profits. Eaton, Kortum, and Kramarz (2011) show that heterogeneity in fixed costs is also necessary to fit the export patterns in French firm-level data.

Table 4: EXPORT FIXED COST BOUNDS ( $f_j$ )

	Lower	Upper		Lower	Upper
Bonus (DK)	-	45.66 (5.65)	Enercon (DE)	25.22 (8.72)	-
Nordtank (DK)	-	43.56 (5.28)	Fuhrlander (DE)	0.91 (0.59)	-
Micon (DK)	-	77.88 (8.08)	Nordex (DE)	-	7.34 (3.13)
Vestas (DK)	-	156.12 (13.84)	Suedwind (DE)	1.70 (0.83)	-
WindWorld (DK)	-	16.74 (3.04)	Tacke (DE)	8.77 (3.38)	-

*Notes:* Scale is normalized by the variance of  $\epsilon$ , see Footnote 8. Standard errors in parentheses.

Danish and German markets. Therefore, we can construct an upper bound on fixed costs for firms entering the foreign market using (6): their fixed cost must have been lower than the expected value of entering the foreign market for otherwise these firms would not have made any foreign sales. Similarly, (7) puts a lower bound on fixed costs for firms that stay out of the foreign market: their fixed costs must be at least as much as their expected profits from entering otherwise they would have bid on some foreign projects. While the scale of these bounds is normalized by the variance of the extreme-value error term, comparing them across firms gives us some idea of the degree of heterogeneity in fixed costs.

Table 4 presents the estimates of fixed cost bounds for each firm. The intersection of the bounds across all firms is empty. For example, there is no single level of fixed costs that would simultaneously justify WindWorld entering Germany and Enercon not entering Denmark; hence, some heterogeneity in fixed costs is necessary to explain firm entry decisions.

One possibility is that fixed cost for entering Germany differ from those for entering Denmark. Since all Danish firms enter the Danish market, any fixed cost below 16.74 (the expected profits of WindWorld for entering Germany) would rationalize the observed entry pattern. In Germany, however, the lower and upper bound of Enercon and Nordex have no intersection. Some background information about Nordex supports the implication of the model that Nordex may be subject to much lower costs than Enercon to enter into the Danish market. Nordex was launched as a Danish company in 1985 but shifted its center of business and production activity to Germany in the early 1990s. As a consequence, Nordex could keep a foothold in the Danish market at a

lower cost than other German firms, which would need to form contacts with Danish customers from scratch.<sup>19</sup>

Of course, the Nordex anecdote also highlights some important caveats with regard to our bounds. By assuming a one-shot entry game, we are abstracting away from entry dynamics. If exporting is less costly to continue than to initiate, then the bounds we calculate—which consider only profits from operating in 1995 and 1996—will be biased downward. Data limitations, particularly the small number of firms, prevent us from extending the model to account for dynamic exporting decisions along the lines of Das, Roberts, and Tybout (2007). Nevertheless, our results suggest the degree of heterogeneity in fixed costs that is necessary to explain entry patterns.<sup>20</sup>

Our specification assumes that fixed entry costs are incurred at the national level. We think this is reasonable, as the biggest drivers in these fixed costs are associated with forming new sales and service teams to reduce transaction costs arising from lingual and cultural differences, and dealing with foreign regulations and grid technology—factors that mostly vary by country rather than by state. To provide further reassurance, we use the model to test for the presence of state-level fixed entry costs. If these costs were a significant factor in firms’ entry decisions, then our specification would incorrectly assume a firm competes in some region of Germany, say Bavaria, when in fact it does not. The model interprets zero wins in a given state as a firm simply losing all projects. But with with state level entry costs, the reality could be that it never competed at all. Therefore, a large number of “zeros” for a firm in terms of state-level number of projects supplied might be an indicator of state-level fixed costs.

There are 15 German states with at least one project. For the five Danish firms, this results in 75 state entry events. Of these, there are 28 instances where a Danish firm wins zero projects in a given state. On the other hand, in every German state, there is at least one Danish firm with positive sales. However, most of these zeros are for small states with very few projects, so it

---

<sup>19</sup>Because of Nordex’s connection to Denmark, we perform a robustness check by re-estimating the model allowing Nordex to sell in Denmark without having to pay the border variable cost. The border cost estimate increases in this specification, but the difference is not statistically significant. Since Nordex is the only exporting German firm, this robustness check also serves as a check on our specification of symmetric border costs. See Balistreri and Hillberry (2007) for a discussion of asymmetric border frictions.

<sup>20</sup>It is important to note that the variable cost estimates presented in Table 3, as well as the counterfactual results below, are robust to dynamic entry as long as firm pricing decisions have no impact on future entry decisions. This assumption is quite common in the literature on structural oligopoly models, e.g., Ericson and Pakes (1995).

is reasonable to think that firms did compete, but simply did not win any projects. To test this hypothesis against the alternative that the firm did not compete, we use the model to compute the implied probability a firm did compete in a state but did not win any projects, as assumed by our model. For the 28 cases where a Danish firm did not build a project in a German state, this probability is effectively a p-value of the null hypothesis above. In 25 of 28 cases, we fail to reject the null hypothesis that firms did compete and simply did not win; that is, in 25 of 28 cases the p-value of the test is above 0.05. There are no instances where the model is rejected with 99 percent confidence: the p-value is never below 0.01. Likewise, we can test for the presence of state-level fixed costs among German firms. For German firms, there are 22 occasions when a firm fails to win a project in a German state. Running the identical test for each instance, we fail to reject the null hypothesis that the firm did compete but simply did not win any project (i.e. the p-values are always above 0.05).

While the above test by no means proves that state-level fixed costs do not exist, it does provide some comfort that the data does not strongly reject our assumption that fixed costs are incurred at the national level. The biggest worry relating to state level fixed costs is that we are misspecifying the project managers' choice set of turbines. To be extra careful, we re-run the estimation eliminating the 3 states in which the model is rejected at the .05 level. This removes 272 projects from the dataset. The coefficients for the national border, state border, and log distance remain significant and similar in magnitude.

## 5 Border Frictions, Market Segmentation, and Welfare

We now use the model to study the impact of border frictions on national market shares, firm profits, and consumer welfare. We perform a two-step counterfactual analysis. The first step eliminates fixed costs of exporting, keeping in place variable costs incurred at the national and state borders.<sup>21</sup> Even though we are unable to point identify firms' fixed costs of exporting, this counterfactual allows us to examine the implications of fixed border costs by setting them to zero,

---

<sup>21</sup>We implicitly assume that the change in market structure does not induce domestic firms to exit the industry, or new firms to be created.

Table 5: COUNTERFACTUAL MARKET SHARES OF LARGE FIRMS (%)

		Data	Estimates	No Fixed Costs	No National Border Costs
Denmark	Danish Firms	92.57	92.89 (1.61)	83.03 (4.15)	77.17 (3.01)
	German Firms	1.69	2.50 (1.00)	13.07 (3.88)	19.31 (2.67)
Germany	Danish Firms	32.29	32.12 (1.49)	32.12 (1.49)	42.10 (4.60)
	German Firms	59.63	59.40 (1.57)	59.40 (1.57)	51.07 (4.03)

*Notes:* Market share measured in projects won. Standard errors in parentheses.

which implies that all firms enter the export market. The second step further reduces the variable cost of the national border by setting  $\beta_b$  equal to the state border coefficient,  $\beta_s$ .<sup>22</sup> In terms of the model, this exercise makes Denmark simply another state of Germany.

## 5.1 Market Shares and Segmentation

We begin our analysis by considering how national market shares in each country react to the reduction of border frictions. Furthermore, because market shares are directly observed in the data, the baseline model's market share estimates can also be used to assess the fit of our model to national level aggregates. Table 5 presents the market share of the major firms of Denmark and Germany in each country, with the fringe taking the remainder of the market. Comparing the first two columns, the baseline predictions of the model closely correspond to the observed market shares. All of the market shares are within the 95 percent confidence interval of the baseline predictions, which suggests that the model has a good fit.

In the third column, we re-solve the model eliminating fixed costs of exporting and keeping the national border variable cost in place. In response, the four German firms that previously competed only domestically start exporting to Denmark. As a result, the market share of German firms in Denmark rises by 10 percentage points. Danish firms, however, still maintain a substantial

<sup>22</sup>We first eliminate fixed costs and then change variable costs because changes in variable border costs when fixed costs are still positive could induce changes in the set of firms that enter foreign markets. Because they are not point identified, we are unable to estimate fixed border costs. Even with reliable estimates, the entry stage with positive fixed costs is likely to result in multiple equilibria.

market share advantage in their home market. Since all five large Danish firms already compete in Germany, there is no change in market shares on the German side of the border when fixed costs of exporting are removed. The difference in response to the elimination of fixed costs between the Danish and German markets is obvious, but instructive. The reduction or elimination of border frictions can have very different effects based on market characteristics. Because there are more projects in Germany than in Denmark, the payoff from entering Germany is much higher. This may be one reason why we see more Danish firms entering Germany than vice versa.<sup>23</sup> As a result, reducing fixed costs of exporting to Germany has no effect on market outcomes, whereas the impact of eliminating fixed cost of exporting to Denmark is substantial.

The fourth and final column of Table 5 displays the counterfactual market shares if the national border had the impact of only a state border. Here, in addition to setting  $f_j$  equal to zero for all firms, we also reduce variable border costs by setting  $\beta_b$  equal to  $\beta_s$ . This results in a large increase in imports on both sides of the border. The domestic market share of Danish firms falls from 92.9 percent to 77.2 percent. The domestic market share of large Danish firms remains high due to firm heterogeneity and the fact that they are closer to Danish projects. In Germany, roughly 42 percent the projects import Danish turbines once the national border is reduced to a state border, which reflects the strength of Danish firms (especially Vestas) in the industry.

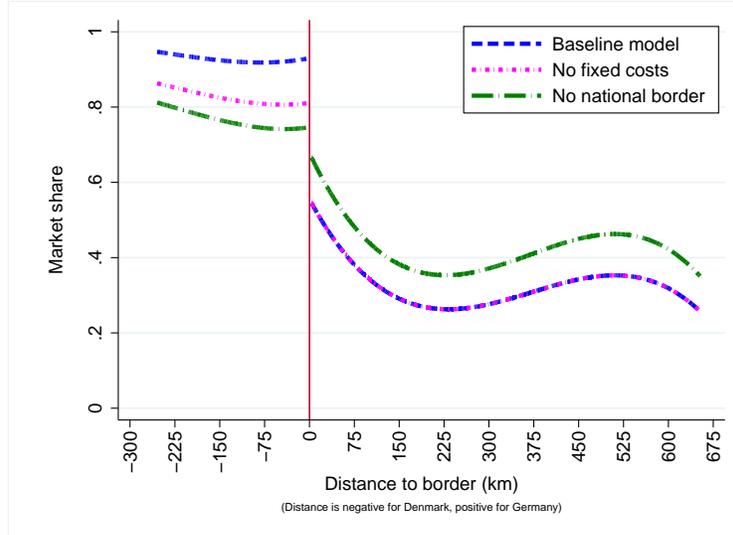
Overall, our results indicate that national border frictions generate significant market segmentation between Denmark and Germany. As a back of the envelope illustration, consider the difference between the market share of Danish firms in the two markets. The gap in the data and baseline model is roughly 60 percentage points. Not all of this gap can be attributed to border frictions since differences in transportation costs due to geography are also partially responsible. However, when we remove national border frictions, our counterfactual analysis indicates that the gap shrinks to 35 percentage points. Almost half of the market share gap is thus attributable to national border frictions.

In addition to national market share averages, our model allows us to examine predicted market shares at a particular point in space. Using the RDD approach describe above, Figure 4

---

<sup>23</sup>This argument assumes fixed costs of exporting are of the same order of magnitude for both countries.

Figure 4: COUNTERFACTUALS: EXPECTED DANISH MARKET SHARE BY DISTANCE TO THE BORDER



Notes: Regression discontinuity fit of projects won by large Danish firms under the baseline model and counterfactual scenarios. Since all Danish firms already compete in Germany, their market share does not change to the right of the border line when fixed costs are removed. See Figure 3 for details.

visualizes the impact of the counterfactual experiments. The blue (dashed) line represents expected market shares baseline model, and is identical to that presented in Figure 3. The red (dotted) line displays counterfactual expected market shares when fixed border costs are removed. This reduces domestic market share of Danish firms since more German firms enter, but leaves market shares unchanged in Germany since all firms were already competing there. Finally, the green (dashed-dotted) line shows the counterfactual estimates when additionally the national border is turned into a state border. The discontinuity at the border remains due to the state border costs but is substantially reduced.

## 5.2 Consumer Surplus and Welfare

We now analyze the overall impact of the border on welfare in the Danish and German wind turbine markets. For each country, Table 6 presents consumer surplus (i.e., surplus accruing to site owners) and firm profits (aggregated by producer’s country) under the baseline and our two counterfactual scenarios.<sup>24</sup> The relative changes in consumer surplus across scenarios are invariant to the scale

<sup>24</sup>Consumer surplus in country  $\ell$  is equal to the sum of expected utility of all project owners:

$$CS^\ell = \sum_{i=1}^{N_\ell} S_i \log \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{|\mathcal{J}_\ell|} \exp \left( \xi_j - \beta_d \cdot \log(\text{distance}_{ij}) + \beta_b \cdot \text{border}_{ij} + \beta_s \cdot \text{state}_{ij} - \frac{1}{1 - \rho_{ij}^\ell} \right) \right].$$

Table 6: COUNTERFACTUAL WELFARE ANALYSIS BY COUNTRY

	Baseline (Levels)	No Fixed Costs (Levels)	No National Border (% Chg)	(Levels)	(% Chg)	
Denmark	(A) Consumer Surplus	70.63 (3.68)	74.35 (3.03)	5.26 (1.89)	76.69 (3.21)	8.58 (1.52)
	(B) Danish Firm Profits	28.78 (0.74)	24.88 (1.58)	-13.55 (3.79)	22.68 (1.15)	-21.19 (2.62)
	(C) German Firm Profits	0.59 (0.25)	3.24 (1.04)	446.37 (76.90)	4.92 (0.74)	729.51 (231.52)
	Domestic Surplus (A+B)	99.41 (4.27)	99.23 (4.15)	-0.18 (0.19)	99.37 (4.10)	-0.04 (0.21)
	Total Surplus (A+B+C)	100.00 (4.10)	102.46 (3.49)	2.46 (1.08)	104.28 (3.58)	4.28 (0.92)
	Germany	(A) Consumer Surplus	68.04 (2.62)			73.99 (3.39)
(B) Danish Firm Profits		10.03 (0.52)			13.44 (1.59)	34.06 (16.54)
(C) German Firm Profits		21.94 (0.89)			18.18 (1.97)	-17.14 (7.82)
Domestic Surplus (A+C)		89.97 (3.00)			92.17 (2.86)	2.44 (1.37)
Total Surplus (A+B+C)		100.00 (3.03)			105.61 (3.44)	5.61 (2.88)

*Notes:* Levels are scaled such that baseline total surplus from projects within a country is 100. “% Chg” is percent change from baseline level. Standard errors in parentheses.

of  $\epsilon$ , so we normalize the consumer surplus in the baseline scenario to 100 for expositional ease.

The first column reports the breakdown of surplus under the baseline scenario. We see that in both Denmark and Germany, consumers receive roughly 70 percent of the total surplus. In Denmark, the bulk of the remaining 30 percent goes to Danish firms (recall that only one German firm is active in Denmark), while in Germany, approximately 10 percent goes to Danish firms and 20 percent to German firms.

The next two columns present results from the counterfactual where only fixed costs of entry are removed. We report both the levels, and percentage changes from baseline levels. Removing fixed costs of exporting causes four German firms to enter the Danish market, which both increases price competition and provides additional variety to Danish site owners. As a result, consumer surplus increases by 5 percent. Danish firms, facing harsher domestic competition, see profits decline by 14 percent. Since the number of German firms increased from one to five, total German profits skyrocket in percentage terms, however this is due to a very small initial base. Even

after removing fixed costs, German firms take less than three percent of the available surplus in Denmark in profits. The gains of Danish consumers from removing fixed export costs are almost perfectly offset by the losses from Danish firms. Domestic surplus actually declines, but the decline is economically negligible and statistically insignificant. When we account for the gains by German firms, total surplus increases by a statistically and economically significant 2.46 percent.

The final two columns of Table 6 display the welfare effects of reducing the national border frictions to the level of a state border.<sup>25</sup> As we would expect, site owners see significant benefits, and consumer surplus rises by 9 percent in Denmark and in Germany. These increases come at the cost of domestic producers, who see home profits decline by 21 percent in Denmark and 17 percent in Germany.<sup>26</sup> In Denmark, the removal of national border frictions results in a transfer of surplus from domestic firms to consumers, netting to essentially no change in domestic surplus. When we include the benefits of exporters, however, total surplus increases by 4 percent. The story in Germany is a bit different. Consumer gains outweigh domestic firm losses in Germany and domestic surplus increases by 2 percent. Essentially, removing border frictions improves the access of German site owners to high-productivity Danish firms and erodes Enercon's substantial market power in Germany. When we include the benefits to Danish exporters, elimination of the border raises surplus in the German market by a substantial 6 percent.

We conclude this section with an important disclaimer. Our second counterfactual represents a reduction of all national border frictions to the level of only a state border. In reality, these frictions are generated by a complex combination of political, administrative, and cultural differences between countries. It is unlikely that any policy initiative would succeed in eliminating these differences completely. Rather, our findings illustrate the magnitude of the national border and its effect on firms and consumers in the wind turbine industry. Policy makers may view the results as an upper bound on what can be accomplished through economic and political integration.

---

<sup>25</sup>For the welfare analysis, our assumption that the barriers to trade are driven by costs, not preferences, is important. As argued before, we think this assumption is plausible for this industry.

<sup>26</sup>Of course, these declines do not account for benefits realized in the export market. See Appendix C.1 for an accounting of how each firm fares as both a domestic producer and an exporter under our counterfactual scenarios.

## 6 Conclusion

This paper uses spatial micro-data to document the impact of fixed and variable border costs while controlling for several sources of bias that plague analysis of aggregated trade flows. The model and the detailed geographical information on manufacturers and projects allow us to better control for distance costs and differences in competition on either side of the border than the existing literature. In addition, the model enables us to conduct counterfactual analysis on the impact of border frictions on producer and consumer welfare. We find that border frictions are substantial; counterfactual analysis indicates that almost 50 percent of the gap in cross-border market shares can be attributed to national border costs. Our study makes some strides towards identifying the underlying sources of border frictions. We separately document the role of a fixed cost to begin exporting and a variable border cost for each exported shipment.

Of course, there is still more work to be done. We cannot, for example, separately identify the roles that bureaucratic, linguistic, or cultural differences play in generating border frictions. With data from several countries, our model could easily be extended to investigate whether cultural or legal similarities appear to reduce the costs of crossing national boundaries. Moreover, while it is reasonable to attribute border frictions to costs in our setting of a large capital good traded in a business-to-business market, in other industries cross-border differences in preferences—in particular home bias—may play an important role. This is particularly true in consumer goods markets.

Finally, the existence of large border frictions within the European wind turbine industry has important policy implications for the EU. Due to growing concerns about climate change, many governments, including EU members and the United States, subsidize renewable energy generation. The efficiency of subsidies in the wind electricity output market is closely related to the degree of competition in the upstream market for wind turbines themselves. If there are substantial frictions to international trade in turbines, a national subsidy to the downstream market may implicitly be a subsidy to domestic turbine manufacturers. This would be against the intentions of EU common market policy, which seeks to prevent distortions due to subsidies given by member states exclusively to domestic firms. In fact, Denmark, which has one of the

most generous wind energy subsidies in Europe, is also home to the most successful European producers of wind turbines. Our findings of large border frictions in the upstream market imply that harmonizing renewable energy tariffs may be necessary to ensure equal treatment of European firms in accordance with the principles of the European single market project.

## References

- ANDERSON, J. E., AND E. VAN WINCOOP (2003): “Gravity with Gravitas: A Solution to the Border Puzzle,” *The American Economic Review*, 93(1), pp. 170–192.
- BALISTRERI, E. J., AND R. H. HILLBERRY (2007): “Structural estimation and the border puzzle,” *Journal of International Economics*, 72(2), 451–463.
- BERRY, S. (1994): “Estimating Discrete-Choice Models of Product Differentiation,” *RAND Journal of Economics*, 25(2), 242–262.
- BERRY, S., J. LEVINSOHN, AND A. PAKES (1995): “Automobile Prices in Market Equilibrium,” *Econometrica*, 63(4), 841–890.
- BRESNAHAN, T. F., AND P. REISS (1991): “Empirical Models of Discrete Games,” *Journal of Econometrics*, 48(1), 57–81.
- BRODA, C., AND D. E. WEINSTEIN (2008): “Understanding International Price Differences Using Barcode Data,” NBER Working Papers 14017, National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc.
- CAPLIN, A., AND B. NALEBUFF (1991): “Aggregation and Imperfect Competition: On the Existence of Equilibrium,” *Econometrica*, 59(1), 25–59.
- COSAR, A. K., P. L. E. GRIECO, AND F. TINTELNOT (2014): “Upward Bias in Border Effects: An Insight from Structural Estimation,” U of Chicago, Penn State, and Princeton.
- DAS, S., M. J. ROBERTS, AND J. R. TYBOUT (2007): “Market Entry Costs, Producer Heterogeneity and Export Dynamics,” *Econometrica*, 75(3), 837–873.
- EATON, J., AND S. KORTUM (2002): “Technology, Geography, and Trade,” *Econometrica*, 70(5), pp. 1741–1779.
- EATON, J., S. KORTUM, AND F. KRAMARZ (2011): “An Anatomy of International Trade: Evidence From French Firms,” *Econometrica*, 79(5), 1453–1498.
- EIZENBERG, A. (2013): “Upstream Innovation and Product Variety in United States Home PC Market,” Hebrew University.
- ENGEL, C., AND J. H. ROGERS (1996): “How Wide Is the Border?,” *The American Economic Review*, 86(5), pp. 1112–1125.
- ERICSON, R., AND A. PAKES (1995): “Markov-Perfect Industry Dynamics: A Framework for Empirical Work,” *Review of Economic Studies*, 62(1), 53–82.

- FEENSTRA, R. C., AND J. A. LEVINSOHN (1995): “Estimating Markups and Market Conduct with Multidimensional Product Attributes,” *Review of Economic Studies*, 62(1), 19–52.
- FOWLIE, M., M. REGUANT, AND S. P. RYAN (2012): “Market-Based Emissions Regulation and Industry Dynamics,” Working Paper 18645, National Bureau of Economic Research.
- FRANKEN, M., AND T. WEBER (2008): “Heavy Duty,” *New Energy*, 2008(5), 28–37.
- GOLDBERG, P. K., AND F. VERBOVEN (2001): “The Evolution of Price Dispersion in the European Car Market,” *The Review of Economic Studies*, 68(4), 811–848.
- GOLDBERG, P. K., AND F. VERBOVEN (2005): “Market Integration and Convergence to the Law Of One Price: Evidence from the European Car Market,” *Journal of International Economics*, 65(1), 49 – 73.
- GOPINATH, G., P.-O. GOURINCHAS, C.-T. HSIEH, AND N. LI (2011): “International Prices, Costs and Markup Differences,” *American Economic Review*, 101(6), 2450–86.
- GORODNICHENKO, Y., AND L. L. TESAR (2009): “Border Effect or Country Effect? Seattle May Not Be So Far from Vancouver After All,” *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, 1(1), 219–41.
- HILLBERRY, R., AND D. HUMMELS (2008): “Trade responses to geographic frictions: A decomposition using micro-data,” *European Economic Review*, 52(3), 527 – 550.
- HILLBERRY, R. H. (2002): “Aggregation bias, compositional change, and the border effect,” *Canadian Journal of Economics*, 35(3), 517–530.
- HOLMES, T. J. (2011): “The Diffusion of Wal-Mart and the Economies of Density,” *Econometrica*, 79(1), 253–302.
- HOLMES, T. J., AND J. J. STEVENS (2012): “Exports, borders, distance, and plant size,” *Journal of International Economics*, 88(1), 91–103.
- MCCALLUM, J. (1995): “National Borders Matter: Canada-U.S. Regional Trade Patterns,” *The American Economic Review*, 85(3), 615–623.
- MELITZ, M. J. (2003): “The Impact of Trade on Intra-Industry Reallocations and Aggregate Industry Productivity,” *Econometrica*, 71(6), 1695–1725.
- MORALES, E., G. SHEU, AND A. ZAHLER (2014): “Gravity and Extended Gravity: Using Moment Inequalities to Estimate a Model of Export Entry,” Harvard University Mimeo.
- OBSTFELD, M., AND K. ROGOFF (2001): “The Six Major Puzzles in International Macroeconomics: Is There a Common Cause?,” in *NBER Macroeconomics Annual 2000, Volume 15*, NBER Chapters, pp. 339–412. National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc.
- PAKES, A., J. PORTER, K. HO, AND J. ISHII (2006): “Moment Inequalities and their Application,” Harvard University and University of Wisconsin.
- ROBERTS, M. J., AND J. R. TYBOUT (1997): “The Decision to Export in Colombia: An Empirical Model of Entry with Sunk Costs,” *American Economic Review*, 87(4), 545–64.

- SALVO, A. (2010): “Trade Flows in a Spatial Oligopoly: Gravity Fits Well, But What Does It Explain?,” *Canadian Journal of Economics*, 43(1), 63–96.
- SIJM, J. (2002): “The Performance of Feed-in Tariffs to Promote Renewable Electricity in European Countries,” Energy Resource Center of the Netherlands, ECN-C-02-083.
- THOMADSEN, R. (2005): “The Effect of Ownership Structure on Prices in Geographically Differentiated Industries,” *The RAND Journal of Economics*, 36(4), pp. 908–929.

# Appendices

FOR ONLINE PUBLICATION (Cosar,Grieco,Tintelnot 2014)

## Appendix A Gravity in Wind Turbine Trade

In order to get a rough comparison of the relevance of trade costs within the wind turbine industry versus common benchmarks in the literature, we estimate a gravity equation using the 6-digit HS 2007 product category that is associated with the industry. The precise goal is to compare distance and contiguity coefficients to the values obtained in the literature using aggregate data.

Gravity variables come from the CEPII dataset ([http://www.cepii.fr/CEPII/en/bdd\\_modele/bdd.asp](http://www.cepii.fr/CEPII/en/bdd_modele/bdd.asp)) made available by Head and Mayer (2013). USITC (2009) helps us to identify the product code associated with wind turbines: “wind-powered generating sets” with the HS 2007 code 8502.31. We obtain bilateral trade data on this product from WITS database (<http://wits.worldbank.org/wits/>). Data is available for the period 2002-2010. The estimation equation takes the form

$$\ln X_{sd} = \psi_s + \psi_d + \alpha \cdot Contig_{sd} + \beta \cdot \ln(distance_{sd}) + \Gamma \cdot Z_{sd} + \epsilon_{sd}, \quad (1)$$

where the dependent variable is the natural logarithm of trade volume  $X_{sd}$  between source country  $s$  and destination country  $d$  averaged over 2002-2010.  $(\psi_s, \psi_d)$  are importer-exporter fixed effects. The variable  $Contig_{sd}$  equals one if the two countries are contiguous.  $Z_{sd}$  includes a set of standard controls such as common language, common currency, bilateral tariffs, regional or bilateral free trade agreement, and colonial links. We estimate this equation with OLS using data on country pairs with positive trade flows  $X_{sd} > 0$ . Table 1 reports the results.

Table 1: GRAVITY OF WIND TURBINE TRADE

Contiguity	0.585* (0.306)
Distance	-1.027*** (0.199)
Country fixed effects	Yes
Observations	1366
$R^2$	0.594

*Notes:* Standard errors in parenthesis

\* significance at 10 percent level

\*\*\* significance at 1 percent level.

The results indicate that the industry is remarkably representative in terms of distance and contiguity. The elasticity of trade flows with respect to distance is  $-1.027$ , which is consistent with the typical unit elasticity reported by the literature for aggregate trade flows. The contiguity coefficient is  $0.585$ . In a survey of 159 papers from the gravity literature, Head and Mayer (2013) report summary statistics on the coefficients of most frequently used variables. The mean distance elasticity and contiguity coefficient across structural gravity estimates are  $-1.1$  and  $0.66$ , respec-

tively (Table 4 in their paper). This gives us some assurance that the results of the paper are not specific to an industry that is itself an outlier in terms the effects of distance and contiguity.

## Appendix B Data

### B.1 Description

The register of Danish wind turbines is publicly available from the Danish Energy Agency ([http://www.ens.dk/en-US/Info/FactsAndFigures/Energy\\_statistics\\_and\\_indicators/OverviewOfTheEnergySector/RegisterOfWindTurbines/Sider/Forside.aspx](http://www.ens.dk/en-US/Info/FactsAndFigures/Energy_statistics_and_indicators/OverviewOfTheEnergySector/RegisterOfWindTurbines/Sider/Forside.aspx)). This dataset spans the entire universe of Danish turbine installations since 1977 until the most recent month. The data on German installations is purchased from the private consulting company Betreiber-Datenbasis (<http://www.btrdb.de/>) and spans the period 1982-2005. Before 1987, however, both countries have low levels of annual installations: in Germany, there are only 48 wind farms in operation as of 1987, whereas after this year, there are at least 50 new projects annually.

Typically, several turbines are part of one wind farm project. The German data comes with project identifiers. We aggregate Danish turbines into projects using the information on installation dates, cadastral and local authority numbers. Specifically, turbines installed in the same year, by the same manufacturer, under the same cadastral and local authority number are assigned to the same project. The fine level of disaggregation provided by cadastral and local authority numbers minimize the measurement error.

Data on manufacturer locations was hand-collected from firms' websites and contacts in the industry. As of 1995 and 1996, seven out of ten large firms we use for our analysis were operating a single plant. Bonus, Vestas and Nordex had secondary production facilities. For these firms, we use the headquarters. Our industry contacts verified that these headquarters were also primary production locations with the majority of value-added. Equipped with the coordinates of projects and production locations, we calculated road distances as of June 2011 using the Google Maps API (<http://code.google.com/apis/maps/>). Therefore, our road distances reflect the most recent road network. For developed countries such as Germany and Denmark, the error introduced by the change in road networks over time is negligible. Using direct great-circle distances in estimation generated virtually the same results.

### B.2 Project Characteristics

Table 2, and Figures 1-3 provide some summary statistics on project characteristics in the two countries. Differences in distance to producers reflect heterogeneity in country size. Evidently, key observable characteristics such as electricity generating capacity, tower height and rotor diameter are remarkably similar in the two markets, ruling out product differentiation as a source of market segmentation. Slightly higher tower heights in Germany are due to lower wind speeds in southern regions. In such an environment, larger turbines are needed to attain the same capacity. What matters for this paper is that wind conditions do not change at the border. The European wind atlas available at the following link verifies that this is the case. (<http://www.wind-energy-the-facts.org/en/appendix/appendix-a.html>).

Table 2: SUMMARY STATISTICS OF PROJECTS

		Denmark	Germany
Capacity (KW)	Mean	475.81	472.59
	St. Dev.	207.93	175.98
	Median	600	500
	10th percentile	225	225
	90th percentile	600	600
Tower height (m)	Mean	38.34	49
	St. Dev.	7.96	8.64
	Median	40	50
	10th percentile	30	40
	90th percentile	46	65
Rotor diameter (m)	Mean	37.43	38.51
	St. Dev.	9.13	7.02
	Median	42	40.3
	10th percentile	29	29.5
	90th percentile	44	44
Distance to the border (km)	Mean	159.38	296.88
	St. Dev.	72.33	162.23
	Median	169.45	295.12
	10th percentile	51.59	90.68
	90th percentile	242.58	509.20
Distance to producers* (km)	Mean	154.02	366.58
	St. Dev.	31.26	100.19
	Median	169.45	344
	10th percentile	117.52	258.20
	90th percentile	192.65	510.78
Number of turbines per project	Mean	1.94	1.95
	St. Dev.	2.07	2.52
Number of projects	1977-1981	76	0
	1982-1987	362	48
	1988-1994	1030	1452
	1995-1996	296	929
	1997-2005	1373	4148

*Notes:* Summary statistics of product characteristics in the first six panels are from the sub-sample of projects installed in 1995-1996. Onshore projects only.

(\*): Average distance to firms with positive sales in that market.

### B.3 List Prices

The survey of the German wind turbine market published by Interessenverband Windkraft Binnenland (various years) provides information on list prices for various turbine models as advertised by producers. These prices, however, are only suggestive and do not reflect project-specific final transaction prices. We use this information to verify the validity of our constant-returns-to-scale assumption. Figure 4 plots the per kilowatt price of various models against their total kilowatt capacity. Evidently, there are increasing returns up to 200 KWs. Beyond that range, per unit prices are mostly flat. As Figure 3 shows, a majority of the turbines installed in this period were in the 400-600 KW range.

### B.4 Regression Discontinuity Design

We estimate the following linear probability model in Subsection 2.2:

$$y_i = \alpha_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{k=3} \alpha_k \cdot \text{distance}_i^k + \gamma \cdot \text{Germany}_i + \sum_{k=1}^{k=3} \eta_k \cdot \text{distance}_i^k \cdot \text{Germany}_i + \epsilon_i. \quad (2)$$

The dependent variable is  $y_i = 1$  if the producer of project  $i$  is one of the five large Danish firms, and zero otherwise. The variable  $\text{distance}_i$  is the distance to the border. The effect of the border is picked up by the dummy variable  $\text{Germany}_i$  that equals one if the project is in Germany, and zero otherwise. The parameter of interest is  $\gamma$ . Table 3 reports the results for various specifications estimated with robust standard errors. The first column is the baseline featuring a cubic polynomial and interaction terms which allow distance to have a different effect on the two sides of the border. The border coefficient  $\gamma$  is significantly negative and of comparable magnitude in all four regressions.

Table 3: RDD RESULTS FOR THE 1995-1996 PERIOD

	Baseline Specification	Cubic No interactions	Linear	Linear No interaction
Germany ( $\gamma$ )	-0.305* (0.126)	-0.338*** (0.07)	-0.411*** (0.066)	-0.423*** (0.047)
Constant ( $\alpha_0$ )	0.925*** (0.112)	0.807*** (0.049)	0.851*** (0.059)	0.862*** (0.027)
Distance				
$\alpha_1$	0.0014 (0.0026)	-6.7e-04*** (1.84e-04)	-4.77e-04** (3.41e-04)	-3.91e-04*** (8.32e-05)
$\alpha_2$	1.17e-05 (1.8e-04)	3.37e-07 (5.24e-07)		
$\alpha_3$	2.04e-08 (3.61e-08)	2.55e-10 (7.17e-10)		
Interactions				
$\eta_1$	-0.004 (0.0027)		-8.92e-05 (3.52e-04)	
$\eta_2$	-4.94e-06 (1.81e-05)			
$\eta_3$	-2.59e-08 (3.61e-08)			
Observations	1226	1226	1226	1226
Adjusted $R^2$	0.284	0.279	0.278	0.2718

Notes: Standard errors in parentheses. \*, \*\*, \*\*\*: significance at 10, 5, 1 percent levels.

## Appendix C Additional Results and Robustness Checks

### C.1 Firm Profits

Table 4 presents the level of operating profits under the baseline and two counterfactual scenarios, calculated according to (5). While the scale of these profit figures is arbitrary (similar to  $f_j$  in Table 4, units are normalized by the variance of  $\epsilon$ ), they allow for comparison both across firms and across scenarios. The table separates profits accrued in Germany and Denmark for each firm. For example, in the baseline scenario, we see that Bonus made 48.77 in profits in Denmark, and 45.66 in Germany. If the national border were reduced to a state border, Bonus's profits in Denmark would fall to 37.66, while their profits in Germany would rise to 61.47. On overall, Bonus would

Table 4: BASELINE AND COUNTERFACTUAL PROFIT ESTIMATES

	Denmark			Germany	
	Estimates	No Fixed Costs	No National Border Costs	Estimates	No National Border Costs
Bonus (DK)	48.77 (5.23)	41.61 (5.25)	37.66 (4.52)	45.66 (5.65)	61.47 (9.96)
Nordtank (DK)	42.70 (4.49)	36.41 (4.54)	32.94 (3.84)	43.56 (5.28)	58.72 (9.74)
Micon (DK)	82.87 (7.32)	71.29 (7.71)	64.81 (6.39)	77.88 (8.08)	104.75 (16.29)
Vestas (DK)	160.77 (11.40)	140.50 (12.46)	128.86 (10.74)	156.12 (13.84)	208.22 (27.77)
WindWorld (DK)	21.57 (3.58)	18.53 (3.26)	16.84 (2.95)	16.74 (3.04)	22.60 (4.74)
Enercon (DE)		24.04 (7.85)	36.46 (6.05)	474.18 (33.46)	398.38 (48.68)
Fuhrlander (DE)		0.77 (0.44)	1.18 (0.55)	15.42 (5.10)	12.43 (4.20)
Nordex (DE)	7.34 (3.13)	6.14 (2.14)	9.32 (1.79)	78.47 (9.25)	63.08 (9.68)
Suedwind (DE)		1.44 (0.62)	2.19 (0.58)	21.99 (4.76)	17.61 (4.53)
Tacke (DE)		7.73 (2.60)	11.78 (2.15)	153.84 (13.57)	124.94 (17.23)

Notes: Scale is normalized by variance of  $\epsilon$  (see Footnote 8). Standard errors in parentheses.

see its total profits increase as a result of the elimination of national border frictions, as gains in Germany would more than offset losses from increased competition in Denmark.

The situation is different for German firms. When fixed costs are eliminated, the large German firms—Enercon and Tacke—take the lion’s share of the gains. However, all German firms—even the largest firm, Enercon—lose from the entire elimination of national border frictions. Underlying this result is the significant asymmetry in size and productivity between Germany and Denmark. The losses German firms face due to increased competition in the larger German market overwhelm all gains they receive from better access to the Danish market. Our model estimates Danish firms to be highly productive, so eliminating the national border is quite costly to German incumbents. Even a small Danish exporter like WindWorld gains from the reduction of national border frictions since increased profits in the larger German market outweigh its losses at home. However, WindWorld’s gains are insignificant when compared to the gains of the large Danish firms, such as Vestas. Overall, we find that because a German firm’s domestic market is considerably larger than its export market, border frictions protect the profit of German firms over those of Danish firms.

## C.2 Alternative Cost Specifications

We implement several alternative specifications as robustness checks and extensions to our baseline cost specification. First, we estimate the cost function of the firm without the state border. In our second alternative, we allow distance costs to vary by manufacturing firm:

$$c_{ij} = \phi_j + \beta_{dj} \cdot \log(\text{distance}_{ij}) + \beta_b \cdot \text{border}_{ij} + \beta_s \cdot \text{state}_{ij}. \quad (3)$$

Note that the difference between this and the baseline specification (2) is that distance cost coefficients are heterogeneous ( $\beta_{d_j}$  vs.  $\beta_d$ ). This cost function is consistent with Holmes and Stevens (2012), who document that in U.S. data large firms tend to ship further away, even when done domestically.<sup>1</sup> If heterogeneous shipping costs were present in the wind turbine industry, they might bias our baseline estimate of the border effect upward through a misspecification of distance costs, since smaller firms would not export due to higher transport costs instead of the border effect.

In a third alternative specification, we allow the per-megawatt cost of a project and the impact of national boundaries to vary by project size,

$$c_{ij} = \phi_j + \beta_d \cdot \log(\text{distance}_{ij}) + \beta_b \cdot \text{border}_{ij} + \beta_s \cdot \text{state}_{ij} + \gamma_1 \cdot S_i + \gamma_2 \cdot \text{border}_{ij} \cdot S_i. \quad (4)$$

The primary purpose of this specification is to investigate economies of scale in the variable border cost. If variable border cost is primarily generated by a single per-project cost that does not vary with size, then  $\gamma_2$  will be negative and the border will matter relatively less for large projects than for small, since the cost is amortized across a more electric capacity. On the other hand, if the variable border costs are proportional to project size, as they would be if costs are connected to delivery or legal liability associated with the value of cross-border contracts, then  $\gamma_2$  will be small in magnitude and border costs will remain important even for large projects. The size coefficient,  $\gamma_1$ , affects all active producers equally and is meant to control for the fact that the competitive fringe is made up of small firms and is less likely to have the resources to serve large projects.

The left-hand panel of Table 5 contains the estimates of the heterogeneous distance cost specification presented in (3). The border coefficients remain strongly significant, indicating that they are not an artifact of heterogeneity in distance costs. Turning to the distance costs themselves, small firms do not have systematically higher distance costs. Two small firms in our data, Suedwind and Nordex, are estimated to be distance loving, as they built several turbines in locations further away from their plants. While a formal likelihood ratio test rejects the null hypothesis of homogeneous distance costs, the estimation results indicate that heterogeneous distance costs are not driving cross-border differences in this industry. Therefore, we use our homogeneous distance cost specification for the counterfactuals in the following section.

The last column of Table 5 contains estimates from the size-varying per-megawatt cost specification, (4). The coefficient of interest is the interaction term,  $\gamma_2$ , which is negative, but neither economically nor statistically significant. (The average project size is 1 megawatt.) This is evidence that the variable national border cost does in fact scale with project size, and is not simply a per-project “hassle cost” that might be amortized away when a project is large. The coefficient on project size,  $\gamma_1$ , is significant and reflects that the fringe firm has a more difficult time winning large projects independent of the border. This is likely due to reputation effects and other practical difficulties which prevent small fringe firms from competing for large projects. Overall, these results provide support for our baseline assumption that the national border variable cost scales with project size.

---

<sup>1</sup>They rationalize this observation in a model where heterogeneous firms invest in their distribution networks. Productive firms endogenously face a lower “iceberg transportation cost.”

Table 5: ALTERNATIVE SPECIFICATIONS

	Heterogeneous Distance Costs		Economies of Scale
National Border Variable Cost, $\beta_b$	0.938 (0.285)		1.246 (0.253)
State Border Variable Cost, $\beta_s$	0.683 (0.240)		0.650 (0.224)
Log Distance Cost, $\beta_d$			0.535 (0.092)
Project Size, $\gamma_1$			-0.723 (0.108)
Project Size $\times$ Border, $\gamma_2$			-0.075 (0.054)
Firm specific coefficients	Fixed Effects, $\xi_j$	Distance Costs, $\beta_{dj}$	Fixed Effects, $\xi_j$
<i>Bonus (DK)</i>	2.305 (0.280)	0.479 (0.220)	1.951 (0.226)
<i>Nordtank (DK)</i>	3.051 (0.342)	1.040 (0.272)	1.998 (0.233)
<i>Micon (DK)</i>	3.138 (0.263)	0.680 (0.188)	2.553 (0.219)
<i>Vestas (DK)</i>	4.477 (0.278)	1.189 (0.196)	3.243 (0.216)
<i>WindWorld (DK)</i>	1.215 (0.348)	0.271 (0.188)	1.111 (0.262)
<i>Enercon (DE)</i>	3.823 (0.243)	0.490 (0.177)	3.340 (0.223)
<i>Fuhrlander (DE)</i>	0.963 (0.403)	1.863 (0.339)	0.099 (0.329)
<i>Nordex (DE)</i>	0.988 (0.355)	-0.437 (0.232)	1.684 (0.245)
<i>Suedwind (DE)</i>	0.226 (0.519)	-0.149 (0.305)	0.519 (0.310)
<i>Tacke (DE)</i>	2.401 (0.259)	0.131 (0.180)	2.238 (0.228)
Log-Likelihood	-2290.86		-2324.05
N	1225		1225

Notes: Standard errors in parentheses.

### C.3 Robustness to Local Unobservables, Economies of Density, and Spatial Collusion

In order to derive the pricing equation, our model assumes that turbine manufacturers are independently maximizing project-level profits and that the unobservable shock to project owners' profits,  $\epsilon_{ij}^\ell$ , is unknown to firms, but drawn from a known distribution which is independent across projects and firms. Thus, we abstract away from the existence of spatial autocorrelation of unobservables across projects, economies of density in project location, and spatial collusion among turbine manufacturers. This section assesses whether this assumption has the potential to bias our estimate of the border effect.

There are several reasons for being concerned about the independence assumption which underlies the pricing equation. The assumption will be violated if firms directly observe sources of firm-project cost variation which are not explicitly controlled for by the model. While we feel that firms' productivity levels, firm-project distances, and the border dummy are the primary determinants of costs, other potential sources of variation could relate to unobservable local conditions being more amenable to a particular firm (e.g., local politics or geographic features of an area could result in lower cost for some firms). The independence assumption will also be violated if economies of density can be realized by a firm constructing several projects located geographically

close together. Economies of density might be present if, for example, clustering projects together reduces travel costs for routine maintenance. Such economies of density might make the individual projects less expensive to maintain on a per-unit basis, leading firms with nearby installed projects to have a cost advantage over other firms that is not recognized in our model. Finally, if firms are colluding, then they are not maximizing prices, and the entire model is misspecified.

The existence of local unobservables would generate spatial autocorrelation in the error terms between projects which are geographically close. These could be due to unobserved characteristics of the terrain or local population which favor one manufacturer over another. Such an unobservable could also represent a spatially collusive agreement between firms to advantage a particular firm in a particular region. The existence of these unobservables would violate our assumption that the errors are independent across projects. Moreover, if firms are responding to economies of density of projects, firms pricing decisions become dynamic in nature. Since winning a project today lowers the firms' costs on other projects in the future, firms would not choose prices to maximize project-level profits, but rather the present discounted value of profits on this project and future projects. In short each of these forces—spatial unobservables, economies of density and collusion—would lead firms' projects to be more tightly clustered together than our model would predict, leading to spatial autocorrelation in firms' error terms across projects. To test for the presence of spatial autocorrelation, we consider the following parametric model for the error term:

$$\epsilon_j = \gamma + \psi W \epsilon_j + \nu_i. \quad (5)$$

Here,  $\epsilon_j$  is the vector of private shocks for firm  $j$  in all projects,  $\gamma$  is Euler's constant—the mean of the extreme value distribution,  $W$  is a known spatial weight matrix that determines the degree of influence one project has on another, and  $\nu_i$  are independent and identically distributed mean-zero shocks. The scalar  $\psi$  determines the degree of spatial autocorrelation, we wish to test the null hypothesis that spatial autocorrelation is not present, i.e., that  $\psi = 0$  and the  $\epsilon_{ij}$  are in fact independent across projects.

In order to perform the test, we must specify the spatial weight matrix  $W$ . An element of the spatial weight matrix,  $W_{ik}$  provides an indication of how strongly project  $k$  is related to project  $i$ . Clearly many different specifications are possible, including inverse distance (measured either directly or through a road network), inclusion within the same region, or nearest neighbor adjacency. In practice, we specify  $W$  as,

$$W_{ik} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } dist(i, k) < 30 \text{ km,} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where distance is the direct distance (as the crow flies) in kilometers between projects  $i$  and  $j$ .<sup>2</sup>

We are unable to directly test for spatial autocorrelation in  $\epsilon_{ij}^\ell$  because as with all discrete choice models,  $\epsilon_{ij}^\ell$  is not directly recoverable. Instead, we follow Pinkse and Slade (1998) and test our results for spatial autocorrelation using the generalized errors. The generalized errors are the expectation of  $\epsilon_{ij}^\ell$  conditioned on the observed data and the model being correctly specified. Given the structure of our model, the generalized errors can be derived using the extreme-value density

---

<sup>2</sup>Our results are robust to raising or lowering the distance cutoff and using a specification of  $W$  based on inverse distance.

function,<sup>3</sup>

$$\hat{\epsilon}_{ij}^\ell = \begin{cases} \gamma - \log \rho_{ij}^\ell & \text{if } y_{ij}^\ell = 1, \\ \gamma + \frac{\rho_{ij}^\ell}{1-\rho_{ij}^\ell} \log \rho_{ij}^\ell & \text{if } y_{ij}^\ell = 0. \end{cases}$$

Again,  $\gamma$  represents Euler’s constant—the unconditional expectation of the extreme value distribution. While the derivation of these expectations is algebraically tedious, the result is intuitive: the more likely a manufacturer  $j$  is to be selected by the project manager, the lower  $\hat{\epsilon}_{ij}^\ell$  must be in order for selection to occur. Hence,  $\hat{\epsilon}_{ij}^\ell$  is decreasing in the ex-ante probability of firm  $j$  being selected. The fact that the distribution of  $\hat{\epsilon}_{ij}^\ell$  conditional on  $j$  not being chosen is independent of the actual choice observed in market  $i$  is a consequence of the well known independence of irrelevant alternatives (IIA) property of extreme-value discrete choice models. Note that, if the null hypothesis of no auto-correlation is violated,  $\hat{\epsilon}_{ij}^\ell$  will be misspecified. Nonetheless, they are useful to conduct a hypothesis test for  $\psi = 0$ .

Table 6: RESULTS FROM AUTO-CORRELATION TESTS

Manufacturer	$\hat{\psi}$	Std. Error	t-Stat.
Fringe	0.026	0.008	3.400
Bonus (DK)	0.028	0.006	4.932
Nordtank (DK)	0.024	0.004	6.177
Micon (DK)	0.030	0.005	6.544
Vestas (DK)	0.033	0.005	6.806
WindWorld (DK)	0.029	0.007	4.203
Enercon (DE)	0.048	0.007	6.651
Fuhrlaender (DE)	0.035	0.006	5.847
Nordex (DE)	0.045	0.010	4.393
Suedwind (DE)	0.042	0.014	2.898
Tacke (DE)	0.033	0.005	6.879

We can use ordinary least squares to estimate  $\psi$  from the equation,

$$\hat{\epsilon}_j = \gamma + \psi W \hat{\epsilon}_j + \nu_i$$

and test whether  $\psi = 0$ . Note that, the estimate we generate,  $\hat{\psi}$ , is only consistent under the null hypothesis since the null is assumed in the construction of  $\hat{\epsilon}_j$  and ordinary least squares is only consistent if  $\psi = 0$ .

The results are reported in Table 6.<sup>4</sup> While the magnitude of the estimated  $\hat{\psi}$  is small, the test strongly rejects the null hypothesis for every firm, due in part to the the high precision of the estimates. We conclude that some degree of spatial autocorrelation is present, although it appears to be mild.

The presence of spatial autocorrelation has the potential to bias our estimate of the border effect. In particular, if spatial autocorrelation is due to cost or demand advantages in installing near already completed projects constructed by the same manufacturer, and if exporters have a smaller installed base within a country than do domestic firms, then the border effect may be

<sup>3</sup>The derivation is available from the authors upon request.

<sup>4</sup>It is important that the test be conducted with heteroskedasticity-robust variance estimates, since there is little reason to believe that the generalized errors are homoscedastic.

capturing differences in the installed bases of foreign and domestic firms in addition to the variable cost of exporting. Alternatively, if serial correlation is due to local unobserved characteristics then the location of previous installations, while not cost reducing in and of themselves, serve as proxies for unobservable local conditions. In this spirit, we propose the following specification to check the robustness of our results to mild spatial autocorrelation. We re-estimate the model with the augmented cost function,

$$c_{ij} = \phi_j + \beta_d \cdot \log(\text{distance}_{ij}) + \beta_b \cdot \text{border}_{ij} + \beta_s \cdot \text{state}_{ij} + \beta_c \cdot \text{installed}_{ij},$$

where,<sup>5</sup>

$$\text{installed}_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if firm } j \text{ installed a turbine within 30km of project } i \text{ between 1991 and 1994,} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The new coefficient,  $\beta_c$  is able to capture the relationship between previously installed turbines and the costs of future projects. We are unable, however, to determine whether  $\beta_c$  is a causal effect, a proxy for local unobservables, or some combination of the two. Firms within our model continue to price according to static profit maximization. They do not take into account the possibility that building a turbine will make nearby projects less expensive in the future. This is consistent with the idea that the existence of local installations being merely a proxy variable and having no causal impact on future costs.

The results from this robustness specification are presented in Table 7. The coefficient on having a nearby installation has the expected negative sign (nearby installations are indicative of lower costs) and is of substantial magnitude. The estimates of both distance costs,  $\beta_d$  and variable border costs,  $\beta_b$  both decrease slightly, but remain strongly significant. The estimated impact of the border actually increases to being equivalent to a 9.8-fold ( $\exp(0.92/0.4)$ ) increase in distance (from an 8-fold increase ( $\exp(1.151/0.551)$ ) in column 2 of Table 3). Overall, these results appear to indicate that while unobservable local conditions of economies of density may induce some spatial autocorrelation between projects, the effect is mild and is not substantially impacting our primary results on the size of the border effect. In future work, we hope to investigate whether there is a causal effect of installations on the cost of future projects, but this question will require a fully dynamic pricing model which is outside the scope of our investigation of border costs.

---

<sup>5</sup>We also experimented with including in the cost function the distance to the nearest installed project and using only projects installed in 1993-1994, and obtained qualitatively similar results.

Table 7: ROBUSTNESS CHECK: NEARBY INSTALLED TURBINES

	Coefficient	Std. Error
National Border Variable Cost, $\beta_b$	0.917	(0.251)
State Border Variable Cost, $\beta_s$	0.633	(0.228)
Log Distance Cost, $\beta_d$	0.401	(0.092)
Nearby Installation, $\beta_c$	-1.199	(0.107)
Firm Fixed Effects, $\xi_j$		
<i>Bonus (DK)</i>	1.357	(0.238)
<i>Nordtank (DK)</i>	1.562	(0.243)
<i>Micon (DK)</i>	2.118	(0.226)
<i>Vestas (DK)</i>	2.757	(0.227)
<i>WindWorld (DK)</i>	0.675	(0.266)
<i>Enercon (DE)</i>	3.142	(0.220)
<i>Fuhrlander (DE)</i>	0.311	(0.335)
<i>Nordex (DE)</i>	1.389	(0.255)
<i>Suedwind (DE)</i>	0.398	(0.309)
<i>Tacke (DE)</i>	2.026	(0.225)
Log-Likelihood	-2263.27	
N	1225	

## Appendix D Computational Method

### D.1 Estimation of the Project Bidding Game

We formulate the estimation of the project bidding game as a constrained optimization problem. The objective is to maximize the likelihood function subject to satisfying the firm-project specific winning probabilities expressions that come out of our model. We reformulate the problem defined in (10) for the computational implementation. The reformulated constraints are mathematically equivalent to those in (10). They come with two major advantages: First, when we reformulate the system maximizing the log-likelihood instead of the likelihood function, and rewrite the constraints, we are removing most of the nonlinearity. Second, winning probabilities only affect their respective equation and the adding-up constraint for the respective project. The sparse structure of the Jacobian of the constraints makes this large optimization problem feasible. The reformulated problem is

$$\begin{aligned}
& \max_{\theta, \rho} \quad \sum_{\ell \in \{D, G\}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_\ell} \sum_{j=0}^{|\mathcal{J}_\ell|} y_{ij}^\ell \log \rho_{ij}^\ell \\
& \text{subject to:} \quad \log \rho_{ij}^\ell - \log \rho_{i0}^\ell = \xi_j - \beta_d \cdot \text{distance}_{ij} - \beta_b \cdot \text{border}_{ij} - \beta_s \cdot \text{state}_{ij} - \frac{1}{1 - \rho_{ij}^\ell} \\
& \quad \sum_{k=1}^{|\mathcal{J}_\ell|} \rho_{ik}^\ell + \rho_{i0}^\ell = 1 \quad \text{for } \ell \in \{D, G\}, i \in \{1, \dots, N_\ell\}, j \in \mathcal{J}.
\end{aligned}$$

For the baseline estimation, there are 11 constraints for every German project, and 7 constraints for every Danish project ( $|\mathcal{J}_G| = 10$  and  $|\mathcal{J}_D| = 6$  plus one fringe firm in every market). Since we have 929 German and 296 Danish projects, this aggregates to 12,291 constraints. In

our baseline specification we are choosing 12,304 variables (13 structural parameters and 12,291 equilibrium win probabilities for each firm in each market)

We use the constrained optimization solver KNITRO to solve the problem. To improve speed and accuracy of the estimation, we hand-code the analytical derivatives of the object of function and the constraints and provide the sparsity structure of the Jacobian to the solver. In order to find a global maximum we pick 10 random starting values for the structural parameters. The estimation converges to the same solution for all attempted starting values.

We calculate the covariance matrix of the parameter estimates using the outer product rule:

1. First, we calculate the score of each winning firm project pair,  $\partial \log \rho_i^* / \partial \theta$ , using numerical derivatives. This involves perturbing the  $\hat{\theta}$  vector. Note that the step size to perturb  $\theta$  should be larger than the numerical tolerance level of the equilibrium constraints. Then the equilibrium constraints are resolved.

2. We then calculate the inverse of the covariance matrix:

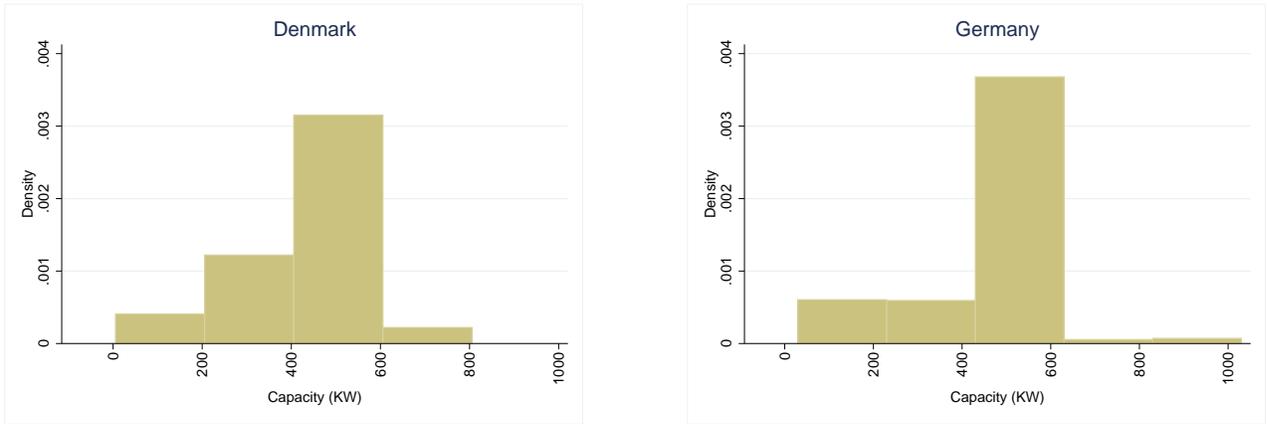
$$\widehat{S}(\hat{\theta}) = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\partial \log \rho_i^*(\hat{\theta})}{\partial \theta} \frac{\partial \log \rho_i^*(\hat{\theta})'}{\partial \theta}.$$

## D.2 Counterfactuals

The point estimate  $\hat{\theta}$  automatically satisfies the equilibrium constraints in the benchmark scenario with fixed entry and variable border costs. In the counterfactual “No fixed border costs” we use  $\hat{\theta}$  to then resolve the equilibrium constraints, with every firm being active in every market,  $|\mathcal{J}_D| = |\mathcal{J}_G| = 10$ . In the counterfactual “No national border costs”, we solve the same system of equilibrium constraints with the variable national border cost coefficient set equal to the variable state border cost.

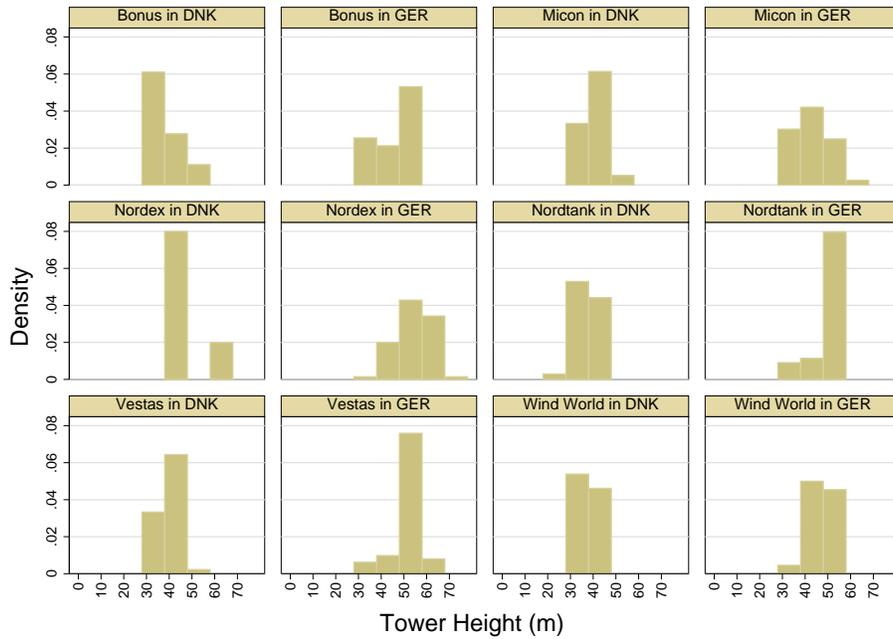
We use a parametric bootstrap procedure to calculate the standard errors for our counterfactuals. We draw 200 parameter vectors from the distribution of estimated parameters (multivariate normal distribution with mean  $\theta$  and covariance matrix  $\widehat{S}(\hat{\theta})^{-1}$ ). First we resolve the baseline equilibrium constraints, then the constraints for the scenario with no fixed entry costs, and finally the constraints for the no border costs scenario (with each firm active in every market and the variable border costs coefficient set to zero). We store the equilibrium outcomes from each of these draws and use them to calculate the standard errors for our counterfactuals.

Figure 1: KW CAPACITY HISTOGRAMS BY MARKET



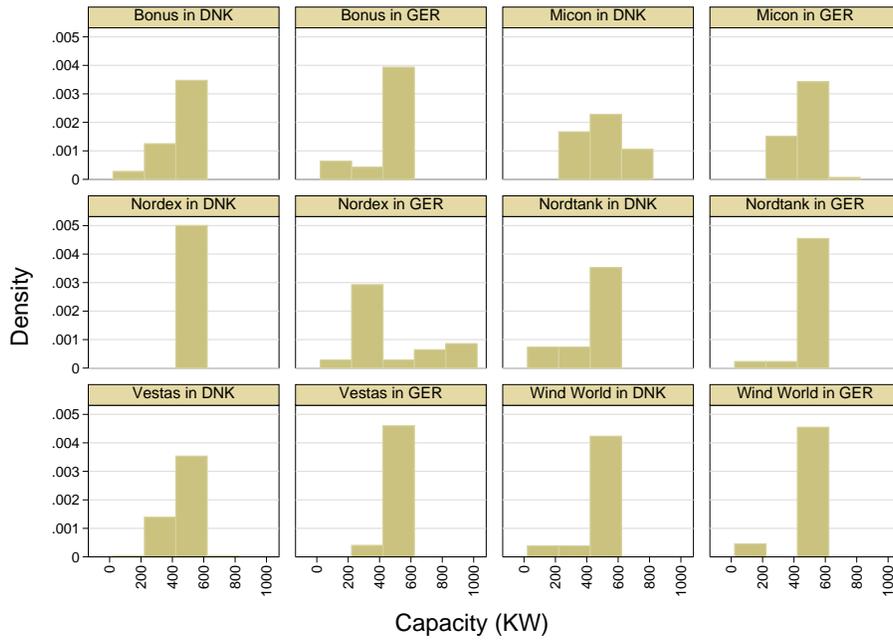
Notes: An observation is average kw capacity of turbines in a project. Years 1995 and 1996 only.

Figure 2: TOWER HEIGHT HISTOGRAMS BY PRODUCER AND MARKET



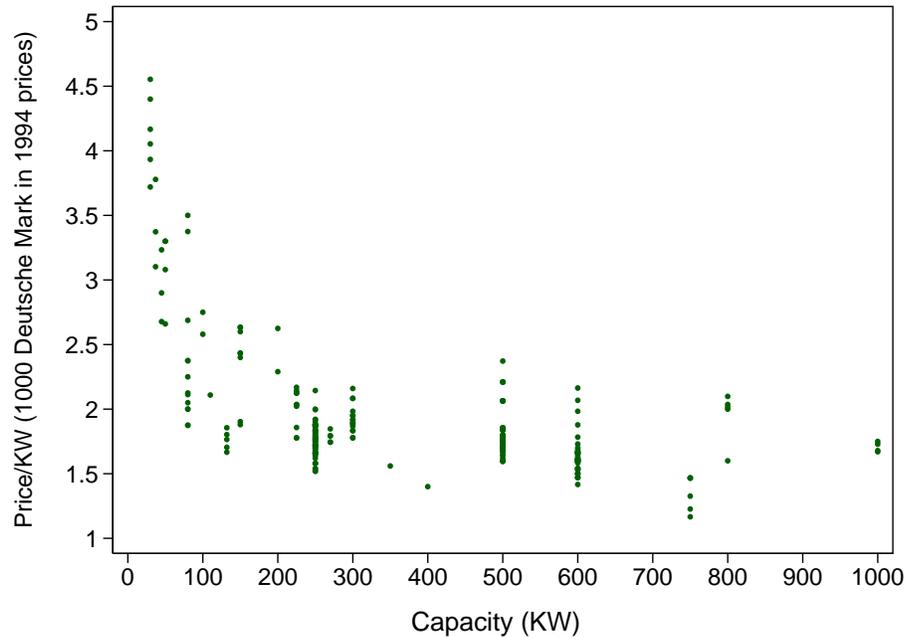
Notes: An observation is average tower height of turbines in a project. Years 1995 and 1996 only. “Bonus in DNK (GER)” indicates projects supplied by Bonus in Denmark (Germany).

Figure 3: KW CAPACITY HISTOGRAMS BY PRODUCER AND MARKET



Notes: An observation is average kw capacity of turbines in a project. Years 1995 and 1996 only. “Bonus in DNK (GER)” indicates projects supplied by Bonus in Denmark (Germany).

Figure 4: PER KW LIST PRICES OF VARIOUS TURBINES OFFERED IN 1995-1996



Notes: Pooled over all producers.

## References

- HEAD, K., AND T. MAYER (2013): “Gravity Equations: Toolkit, Cookbook, Workhorse,” in *Handbook of International Economics*, vol. IV. Elsevier.
- HOLMES, T. J., AND J. J. STEVENS (2012): “Exports, borders, distance, and plant size,” *Journal of International Economics*, 88(1), 91–103.
- INTERESSENVERBAND WINDKRAFT BINNENLAND (various years): “Windkraftanlagen Marktübersicht,” 1994 through 1996.
- PINKSE, J., AND M. E. SLADE (1998): “Contracting in Space: An Application of Spatial Statistics to Discrete-choice Models,” *Journal of Econometrics*, 85(1), 125 – 154.
- USITC (2009): “Wind Turbines: Industry and Trade Summary,” United States International Trade Commission Publication ITS-02.